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# THE TIMES

EDUCATION  
TIMES  
Pages 27-29

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40p

## Tories turn against former leader

# Major heads for showdown with Thatcher

By Robin Oakley and Philip Webster

A TRIAL of strength between John Major and Margaret Thatcher over Europe is now regarded as inevitable by senior Conservatives, in spite of the risk of further splitting the party in the run-up to the general election.

Some of Mrs Thatcher's keenest admirers admit that she went too far in accusing the prime minister of being "arrogant and wrong" in refusing a referendum on monetary union, and they accept that he must be seen to defy her.

One said yesterday: "He has no option now but to tough it out", while another Thatcherite former minister said: "He has to take a firm line now to avoid those 'back seat driver' accusations. She is putting a great strain on the loyalty of her friends."

Other Conservative MPs suggested that her intervention would prove counter-productive, making a deal at

the Maastricht summit next month more likely.

Mrs Thatcher certainly appeared to have miscalculated badly in her choice of adjectives for one of the least arrogant of prime ministers in living memory. Mr Major yesterday indicated his bitterness at the attack when he told a meeting in his Huntingdon constituency that it was "difficult to be grey and arrogant at the same time".

The prime minister is said to be furious at the stream of disparaging private remarks from his predecessor, and he shares the view of senior Tory figures that Edward Heath's criticism of her leadership pales into insignificance when compared with the damage she is causing to the government's election prospects. Senior colleagues aim to lower the temperature by trying to arrange a meeting between Mr Major and Mrs Thatcher, their first for some months. But some doubt if the prime minister would countenance it in his present mood.

Norman Tebbit meanwhile added to the pressure on Mr Major by calling for immediate legislation to allow for a referendum on a single European currency. He said the campaign for a plebiscite had the support of "pretty near a majority" of MPs.

Asked in a television interview whether the dispute could cost the Conservatives the election, the former party chairman said: "What am I to say to people - that I do not believe in things that I do believe in? Am I expected to shut up when I see a danger to this country for the sake of party unity? I am not leading a revolt. I am just setting out what I believe in."

To go down the route towards a United States of Europe would be a disaster, and once the conveyor belt was in motion, it would have an almost unstoppable momentum. "I don't want to see that treaty signed at all," he said.

"One of the principles of British political life is that no parliament can bind a successor parliament. Once we have given up our own currency and signed up to this federalist Europe, Parliament has bound its successors. There is no legal way back out of it. The government does not own the people's right to gov-

ern themselves. It is the people who own that."

Mr Tebbit said that both he and Mrs Thatcher, to a very large extent, spoke for the voters. Other Thatcherite MPs agreed that some of their constituents shared her Euro-scepticism, but they reported a decline in personal support for the former leader.

One senior Thatcher ally said that Mr Major, Douglas Hurd and Norman Lamont had "bent over backwards" in the two-day Commons debate to accommodate her fears. But her subsequent television attack meant Mr Major would have to come back with a deal from Maastricht if the summit was not to be counted a victory for her. Others believed that her behaviour, in advertising party splits, had increased the pressure on the pound that would in itself make a summit deal vital.

A common complaint among Tory MPs was that Mrs Thatcher, Mr Tebbit and Nicholas Ridley were "delivering us up to the Labour party". Without Mrs Thatcher's television interview, it was suggested, the Tories could have switched the attention to Labour's divisions.

Peter Temple-Morris, Conservative MP for Leominster, said that Mrs Thatcher had "absolutely no credibility" on the issue of Europe and should keep quiet. But Gerald Howarth, MP for Cannock and Burwood, said it was the "headless chicken" reaction to her remarks that was causing the damage.

Mr Howarth, who called on Mr Major to reject a single currency before the summit, argued that Mrs Thatcher's views were vindicated by a Sunday Times/MORI poll indicating that nearly six out of ten people supported a referendum on monetary union. The Scottish Young Conservatives also backed a referendum at their conference in Perth. "Unlike her predecessor she is articulating a view which strikes a popular chord," Mr Howarth said.

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, urged Mr Major to challenge Mrs Thatcher head-to-head, while John Smith, the shadow chancellor, denounced the Tory "shambles".

Thatcher in Kuwait, page 3  
Peter Riddell, page 14  
Leading article, page 15

## Archbishop offers to meet Rushdie

By Ruth Gledhill, Religious Affairs Correspondent

THE Archbishop of Canterbury, George Carey, offered last night to meet Salman Rushdie in private after the author said he was "extremely upset" by Dr Carey's call for greater tolerance of Muslim distress provoked by his book *The Satanic Verses*.

Mr Rushdie, speaking on BBC Radio 4's *Sunday programme*, criticised the archbishop's "passionate conviction" that Christians should be able to die for another's right to belief in the same way as for their own.

He said: "That seems to me

to be a sort of form of approval for spiritual violence and vengeance," he said. "Actually, there's only one person around here who is in any danger of dying. I'm sure the archbishop didn't approve of the Iranian *fatwa* but he didn't exactly condemn it either."

He said that the single thing creating intolerance towards the Muslim community in Britain was the maintenance of the *fatwa* calling for his death.

Advisers blamed, page 2

## Russian nouveaux riches taste good life

By Alan Hamilton

AS ORDINARY Muscovites queued in the icy weekend cold for bread, vodka and life's other essentials, doubtless cursing the increasing misery that their anarchic economy is visiting upon them, a slice of the city's upper crust was indulging in one of the wilder foibles of Western capitalism - the uncorking of the Beaujolais Nouveau.

Last week three Moscow hotels flew in a modest 400 bottles of this year's red baby in order that a few invited guests might enjoy the annual rite, which still amuses them up in Islington, north London, but which to the average Russian can only be a mystery.

The consignment was modest by British standards, but is the largest ever to be shipped to Moscow on the third Thursday in November, the traditional date of the Nouveau's release. The shopper on the Moscow omnibus will see

none of it. All three hotels which offered a weekend tasting cater almost exclusively for foreigners with hard currency to spend. "We wanted to show to the international hotel-restaurant business that everything is possible in Moscow," Markku Wahlberg, assistant general manager of the Moscow Savoy, said.

At the Pullman-Iris hotel, a French-Soviet joint venture, the wine's arrival was celebrated with an Alsatian buffet of pigs' feet, baked ham and quenelles, not commodities readily available on the empty shelves of the state food stores. At the Moscow Aerostar, whose restaurant is famed for being the only one in town to offer fresh lobster from Nova Scotia, the wine was accompanied by free plates of hors d'oeuvres.

Andrei Agatolov, a former Tass journalist who quickly had his lips around some of the new arrival, suggested that ordinary Muscovites would be astounded at the shenanigans. "In the middle of

a starving country, a holiday like this will be something crazy in their eyes. But there are so many sad moments in life that I think it absolutely normal that people come here." Russians become philosophical with great ease, especially if alcohol is present.

The Russians, however, are poised to get their own back on the Nouveau. A quantity of seriously view Russian wines from the Crimea come up for auction at Sotheby's tomorrow, and are expected to stir interest among the buyers for the messes of several historic British regiments.

The valley of death, into which the 600 rode, is now a vineyard. Wines from the years 1953-6, marking the centenary of the Crimean War which cost some 25,000 British lives, are estimated to make between £180 and £360 a dozen which, considering the modest cost of Nouveau, sounds like a balance of trade in the Russian favour.

Half a litre, half a litre, half a litre onward...



Mrs Richter at home in Kew yesterday with, from left, son Anton and daughters Alex and Jeanne



Mr Richter and wife at Heathrow last night

## Forgotten prisoner flies back to family

By Tom Giles

IAN RICHTER, for long Britain's forgotten prisoner to the shifting politics of the Middle East, flew home from Baghdad last night to a tearful reunion with his wife, family and friends, after more than five years in an Iraqi jail.

Mr Richter, aged 45, arrived at Heathrow, looking surprisingly fit and confident as he stepped off a private jet owned by Prince Sadrudin Aga Khan, the United Nations envoy into whose custody he was placed after being released.

Cracking jokes and smiling broadly, the South African-born chemical engineer had a

kiss for Lynda Chalker, the Overseas Development minister. "Muslims are allowed to have two wives," he said.

There were scenes of joy and relief as Mr Richter was met on the Heathrow tarmac by his wife, Shirley, and daughters, Alex, aged 19, Jeanne, aged 17, and his son Anton, aged 15.

"I really want to look forward now, and not backwards," he said as he embraced his wife. He thanked Prince Sadrudin for his "superb diplomacy". King Hussein of Jordan, the Foreign Office and thousands of supporters who had sent up to 200 letters a week to his Baghdad maximum-security prison.

Mrs Richter said of her husband: "He looks great, just a little too thin. But it's a wonderful day."

Earlier Mrs Richter, like her husband a devout Catholic, had lit a candle of thanksgiving for his freedom at a celebratory mass in their local church of St Winifred's in Kew.

The rosy welcome, page 2  
Leading article, page 15

## Serbian's bombardment of Osijek thunders on

In Rome and Geneva yesterday the talk may have been of the conditions and timetable for a United Nations peacekeeping force in Yugoslavia as Cyrus Vance brokered a new ceasefire deal.

But on the ground in eastern Croatia, federal army troops cheered and gave the clenched-fist salute every time a shell slammed into Osijek, their next objective after the devastation of Vukovar. Many soldiers appeared intoxicated - literally, not metaphorically.

As the bombardment of Osijek thundered on, a small, bearded corporal, brandishing his Kalashnikov and walking unsteadily, shouted: "Soon there will be no Nazis left alive in Osijek. Ceasefire? Why should we stop when the war against the fascists is almost won?"

Mortars, rockets and artillery pounded the city throughout the morning. Casualty reports were sketchy, but at least two people are known to have died, with 110 wounded.

On Saturday, the attack had been even heavier. At Bilje, the front line, the earth shook during a sustained barrage. Salvos were fired at the rate of ten shells every 30 seconds. The defenders, running short of ammunition as the siege continued, did not return

fire. At a once-beautiful honey-coloured farmhouse on the road out of Bilje, Serbian irregulars took cover as Croat snipers opened fire from nearby woodland. The walls were pockmarked by shrapnel.

Milan Malinkovic, territorial commander for the Bilje section of the front line, opened another bottle of rough local brandy, drank deeply and explained that a ceasefire was impossible. Sitting in his darkened bunker office playing with an ancient Thompson sub-machinegun, he said: "The UN and the Europeans are interfering in something that does not concern them. Let them talk all they like, but we must clear all this Croatian garbage."

With the bottle emptied, he suggested forcefully that we should test his sub-machinegun outside. As sniper fire cracked nearby, he set up a wooden box as a target and emptied the magazine yards wide of the mark.

The commander said the rules of frontline hospitality demanded his guest from

The Times should fire the weapon, too. He suggested a dog searching for food at the edge of the road would make an ideal target: "He is a Croat dog and should not be here." He fired another burst wide of the mark, and the animal fled.

As the barrage intensified, big yellow flashes could be seen every ten seconds above the field where the Bilje battery had dug in. Branko Ceprenko, a Serb irregular, said: "Ceasefire is woman's talk. Croatian fascism must be stopped. They will never be a republic, they must be a part of Yugoslavia even if we have to storm Zagreb itself."

Mr Ceprenko, who, like so many on the front line, had had copious amounts of brandy, gestured towards his companion - a tall man in his 30s playing with a knife. "He is number one cutter of throats. He has had many Croats; he will be slitting many more before this war is over."

Given that similar sentiments have also been expressed by federal army commanders, the prognosis for Yugoslavia's fourteenth ceasefire is not good. More convoys of federal army tanks and artillery pieces were last night crossing the Danube into Croatia.

Factions optimistic, page 9  
Letters, page 15

## TODAY IN THE TIMES

### A NEW FACE

From today a new era begins in this newspaper's 206-year history. *The Times* is printed in a new typeface, called Times Millennium. Cleaner and clearer, it will make the words easier to read. There will be more contrast between text and headlines and more white space between areas of text. "The change is intended to be subtle rather than drastic," says Simon Jenkins, editor of *The Times*. "Improvements in typography are arcane, like the improvements sound technicians claim to be able to make in old music recordings. Such changes are often barely perceptible. Yet over time we do notice and appreciate them." Pages 14 and 20

### POINT TO RAISE



"I don't expect her never to make a mistake, and as a parent you should always be there if they want to call on you." The parents of Donna Lyte, aged 19, concede that her peer group have as much influence on her as they do. But what are the perils of good parenting? Page 13

### SAVING A DROP



The village pub is becoming an endangered species. Colin Lindsey, an accountant, has decided to do something about one of them - by buying it and retaining its atmosphere. Modern Times, page 8

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# Churchmen blame Carey's advisers for controversy over Rushdie



Carey: "A teacher and pastor, not politician"

CHURCH circles are expressing concern about the quality of advice given to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey. Puzzlement is growing over brief, contentious, headline-grabbing statements which he inserts in otherwise harmless speeches.

The Salman Rushdie debacle is the latest in a catalogue of errors which led one exasperated churchman to say last night: "He has a team of inexperienced staff around him. Things will stumble from crisis to crisis."

As with his speech at Newcastle upon Tyne, when Dr Carey linked the riots there to social deprivation, Lambeth Palace has responded to the latest remarks in York by saying that they were taken out of context by the media.

"Inexperienced... stumbling from crisis to crisis." **Ruth Gledhill** reports on the criticisms levelled at the new team in Lambeth Palace

Lesley Perry, his press secretary, said: "The archbishop does not feel particularly hard done by on this one because it happens so often. Salman Rushdie had not read the speech. The speech was not about Salman Rushdie. It is a shame that the necessity for putting something into a small sound bite takes away from a reasoned speech which was not about the issue of the sound bite."

Ms Perry, former head of public affairs at the Royal Institute of International Affairs, is one of several new staff members at

Lambeth. None has emerged to match the stature and experience of John Lyttle, secretary for public affairs, who died of a heart attack in April.

The Rev Philip Crowe, a friend of the archbishop and principal of Salisbury and Wells theological college, said: "Close friends are concerned but not surprised at the number of times he has had to correct or modify statements. He is a teacher and a pastor, not a politician. He is a thinker who works out what his view is in the sharp exchanges of debate. So

being held rigidly to what he has said, or being criticised for what he has failed to say, is difficult for him. He needs staff who are able to help him through these stages of debate in private before he makes these statements publicly."

A senior churchman who was close to Lord Runcie, the former archbishop, said: "Dr Carey is a very strong person. A number of people, including myself, have been trying to stop him taking initiatives which are less than helpful to the church at large. His great loss was when John Lyttle died, because he was a diplomat and politician *par excellence*."

The difference between him and Bob [Lord Runcie] is that if Bob had a bit of trouble, he would

go to the Athenaeum and talk to Willie Whitelaw, Roy Jenkins or Geoffrey Howe, who he knew very well. He was also close to Denis Healey. George had not got any friends like that. He is a home boy." Another senior churchman and friend of Dr Carey said: "I do not think he has a very capable staff around him. That is a major problem. John Lyttle was the shrewdest man around." He analysed Dr Carey's style as chiefly writing his own speeches and reflecting on them after he has delivered them, in response to public comment. The Newcastle speech, which he followed with a visit to the area, was an example. "I am not sure he realises that he should go through that process before he says anything publicly."

Relations between Lambeth and the national media have deteriorated sharply since Lord Runcie retired. The policy now appears to be one of defending a corner against hostile attacks. Another new face at Lambeth is the Rt Rev John Yates, former Bishop of Gloucester, who is head of staff. Mr Lyttle's job as public affairs adviser will be filled in January by Andrew Purkis, director of the Council for the Protection of Rural England. Canon Stephen Platten is the new ecclesiastical secretary. Dr Carey inherited Lord Runcie's chaplain, the Rev Graham James, who is considered capable. Having learned a lot from Mr Lyttle.

Rushdie plea, page 1

## Iraqi assets will go to British exporters

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE Bank of England will begin today the process of unfreezing £70 million of Iraqi money, the condition agreed between London and Baghdad for the release of Ian Richter, the businessman who returned to Britain last night after spending more than five years in jail.

The sum involved represents the value of contracts agreed in recent months between British companies and Iraq to export food and medicine, allowed under the United Nations sanctions regime. The exports consist of food

worth £40 million, medicine worth £20 million and other humanitarian items worth £10 million.

Export licences had been granted by the Department of Trade but Iraq said it had no money to pay for the supplies. The Foreign Office said yesterday that, once the money had been released, it would be handed over to the British companies to cover the contracts. "None of the £70 million will be sent to Iraq."

Foreign Office officials were quick to point out that this was not a deal in the

accepted sense. Soon after the ending of the Gulf war, the UN committee responsible for overseeing international sanctions against the Iraqis said that it was up to individual countries to decide whether to release frozen assets for humanitarian reasons. However, Britain is the first to take this step, after making a clear link between the release of funds and the return of two Britons held in Iraqi jails: Mr Richter and Douglas Brand, who was freed in June.

Until now, President Saddam Hussein has refused to deal with the international community on the question of using funds for providing food and medicine for Iraq. He has refused to accept UN resolution 706, which would allow Iraq to export oil worth \$1.6 billion to buy food and drugs, under strict UN monitoring, saying it entailed gross interference in Iraqi sovereignty.

Yesterday, Prince Saddamuddin Aga Khan, the UN official in charge of Gulf relief efforts who helped in Mr Richter's release, announced that Iraq had agreed to extend UN assistance for victims of the Gulf war for six months. But he said there had been no breakthrough in the deadlock over Iraqi oil sales to buy food and drugs.

Iraq has assets worth more than £650 million in Britain. Iraqi assets frozen around the world are worth about £2 billion, three-quarters of which is held in American bank accounts.

A spokesman for the Bank of England, which will be responsible for arranging the release of the £70 million, said yesterday: "Iraq has \$1.181 million (£656.1 million) in accounts in Britain and we will now have to start discussions with the Iraqis to decide from which account the money should be taken."

Richter homecoming, page 1

## Roses to greet freed husband

By ALAN HAMILTON

THE powerful scent of flowers, and particularly yellow roses, filled Ian Richter's home at Kew, southwest London, yesterday as his family prepared to welcome him home from more than five years' imprisonment in an Iraqi jail.

After a hectic Saturday, when a telephone call from Mr Richter in Baghdad to his wife Shirley brought the first news of his release, the family tried to maintain some semblance of calm and order yesterday in the last hours before an emotional reunion at Heathrow airport.

Mrs Richter's day began with another telephone call. Her husband had managed to get through again to tell her that he was on his way to an airfield outside Baghdad to board the executive jet of Prince Saddamuddin Aga Khan, the UN official in charge of Gulf relief operations, at 11am GMT, for a flight which would deliver him to Heathrow shortly before 6pm. Elated, Mrs Richter

went to morning service at her local Roman Catholic church with her daughters Alex, aged 19, and Jeanne, 17, and her son Anton, 16.

The congregation at St Winefride's, Kew, burst into spontaneous applause as Mrs Richter stepped forward to light a candle of thanksgiving for her husband's freedom. At the end of the service, a tearful Mrs Richter was presented with bouquets of yellow roses by children in the congregation.

As she left the church she told reporters: "It was just wonderful to have everybody here thanking God for Ian's homecoming. I spoke to him on the phone this morning and he was sounding fantastic and very excited to be coming home at last. He sounded very well."

Cardinal Basil Hume, Roman Catholic archbishop of Westminster, said on radio yesterday that he hoped Mr Richter's release would see the end of people being used as political pawns.

## The Waite connection: politics and prayers



Colonel North sweeping past reporters at Heathrow yesterday and (right) the Rev Henry Burgin checking the time at the start of the service at All Saints' church, Blackheath, for the live broadcast on the BBC World Service

## North flies in to deny all blame

By JOHN YOUNG

THE trouble with having once been in the secrets business is that you can never quite bring yourself to discard the cloak and dagger, even when you are supposed to be putting yourself about in the cause of publicity.

So at least it seems to be with Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North, the central figure in the Irangate arms for hostages affair, who flew into London yesterday ostensibly to promote his book *Under Fire: An American Story*. At Heathrow he swept through reporters, photographers and television crews, giving only the briefest of answers to a volley of questions.

Was he planning to see Terry Waite, the British hostage released from Lebanon last week, who, it has been suggested, may have had

links with North and the Central Intelligence Agency? "If there is a chance to see him, I will."

Did he feel any responsibility for Mr Waite's incarceration? "I'm not a terrorist." Had Mr Waite been working for the CIA? "Not to my knowledge."

To what extent was he working with Colonel North during his final visit to Beirut? "So far as I know, he was not working for anyone."

Colonel North, formerly of the US Marines, was convicted of misleading Congress during the Irangate hearings, but the conviction was later overturned. Mr Waite's mission to persuade the kidnappers to release the hostages was said to have been compromised by Colonel North's testimony. At his West End

hotel yesterday Colonel North was said to be resting after his overnight flight from Washington. HarperCollins, the book's publishers, said a number of appointments had been made for Colonel North this week, but he would not be holding a press conference. It seemed a funny way to promote a book.

Terry Waite will answer allegations made against him concerning his relationship with Colonel North, his cousin John Waite said last night (Ruth Gledhill writes).

John Waite said Colonel North was "largely responsible" for his cousin's five-year imprisonment. He said he would love to be a "fly on the wall" should the two men talk to each other during the colonel's visit.

Terry Waite and his family

attended a private eucharist in the chapel at RAF Lyneham, Wiltshire, yesterday morning, where he celebrated his first Sunday of freedom. The family last night attended the BBC *Songs of Praise* service at All Saints', Blackheath, south-east London. Terry Waite's parish church.

Foreign Office sources said last night there were no prospects of an imminent improvement in diplomatic relations with Iran in the wake of Terry Waite's release last week.

## \$2m gift for Yard drug aid

Scotland Yard is to be given a cheque for over \$2 million by the American Drug Enforcement Administration in recognition of British detective work in uncovering extensive money laundering networks extending from shore financial centres to Caribbean and Florida (See art. Tender waives).

The American authorities have seized \$380 million and the payment is believed to be the first of its kind made to British police. In the United States federal agencies regularly share out the proceeds of confiscated assets, which now run to hundreds of millions of dollars each year, with local police and authorities who have helped them.

The suggestion of a payment to the Yard was made several years ago but delayed by legal snags. Last year British customs received \$2 million for help in US investigations into the collapsed Bank of Credit and Commerce International.

## Star has Aids

Freddie Mercury, the singer with the rock group Queen, admitted at the weekend that he had Aids. He said in a statement that he had spoken out because he wanted to put the record straight to end speculation. Mercury, aged 45, who was born Frederick Bulsara in Zanzibar, has led a reclusive life at his home in west London for more than two years.

## Protest halted

Police yesterday thwarted a planned Green party protest by bringing forward by 24 hours the delivery of fuel to be reprocessed at Dounreay nuclear establishment, Highland. The shipment arrived from Germany on Thursday and had been expected to be kept in Dounreay for the weekend but instead was driven north under darkness.

## A rail gamble

Commuters have placed bets with bookmakers over the reliability of British Rail's 18.10 InterCity service from Liverpool Street to Norwich. They have bet £100 at odds of 10-1 against the majority of their trains being on time over the next 20 weekdays. William Hill will pay out 10p of the train's completion of the 115-mile journey within two minutes of the timetable's scheduled 105 minutes.



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## Labour waits at the gates

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

THE prime minister will be asked this week to name the date on which Whitehall's top civil servants will be instructed to make themselves available for consultations with shadow ministers who might be in office after the general election.

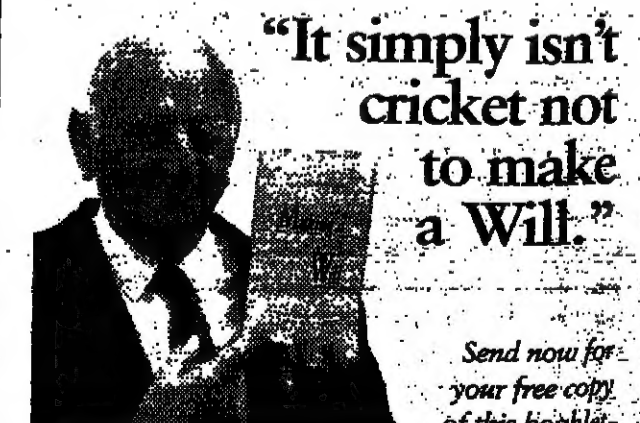
Labour's few veterans with government experience have not forgotten the difficulties of arriving in office after 13 years in the wilderness. Alf Morris, the Labour MP for Manchester Wythenshawe and front bench spokesman for the disabled, has tabled a question to John Major for priority answer on Wednesday, asking him what the conventions are "whereby civil service departments take steps to consult the opposition about their policies towards the end of a parliament and when such steps are to be taken before the end of the current parliament."

Mr Morris, minister for the disabled from 1974-9, said yesterday that it was

important for formal contacts to begin so that civil servants knew the priorities in Labour's programme.

Whitehall departments, in the usual way, are already combing through Labour and Liberal Democrat policy documents, think-tank pamphlets and interview transcripts to compile information on the likely programme of an incoming administration. But the "Douglas-Hume rules", drawn up in 1964 — the last time Labour ran down its bank of ministerial experience through 13 years in opposition — provide for direct contacts so that the implications of policy changes, especially on the machinery of government, can be thought through.

In informal contacts in 1963, for example, Labour let top civil servants know of its plans to create a separate Department of Economic Affairs. Sir Laurence Helsby, head of the home civil service, made advance



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THE TIMES MONDAY NOVEMBER 25 1991

## Times enquiry into mortgage cover

## Insurers refuse to help the jobless

By TONY DAWE

HOMEOWNERS who have insured their mortgage payments against losing their jobs or becoming disabled are being cheated when they try to claim, according to MPs, financial advisers and the insurance ombudsman.

An investigation by *The Times* has discovered that many policies are full of loopholes which mislead the public and enable insurers to avoid paying up.

Julian Farrand, the insurance ombudsman, says one in ten of enquiries he receives concern mortgage protection policies. Policyholders complain about having premiums increased without being told that benefits were being reduced and about being unable to claim for sickness or injury because insurers have unfairly used small-print clauses to argue that pre-existing medical conditions disqualified them.

Marjorie Mowlem, Labour spokesman on trade and industry, said: "There are appalling examples of people being misled. The government must investigate and not just leave this to the insurance industry to sort out. Mortgages represent the biggest financial decision in most people's lives but they are surrounded by complexities, including endowment and now protection policies, all of which need to be thoroughly investigated."

Insurance companies are taking a tough line on the policies because they have been losing money on them but Dr Farrand says that the

art of insurance underwriting is to balance losses in some sectors with profits in others.

Leeds Permanent Building Society reports that one in four new borrowers has protection policies, compared with one in ten last year. At the Halifax, one in six takes out the policies. Most people choose to pay a monthly premium, which costs between £4.50 and £6 to cover each £100 worth of monthly interest payments. A £50,000 mortgage would cost up to £24 a month to cover.

Enquiries by *The Times* found these exclusion clauses:

• **Early dismissal or disability.** If you are dismissed within three months of taking out the policy, none of the insurance companies will pay up. Some, including the Mortgage Protection Society, provided by IGI Insurance of Basingstoke, Surrey, refuse to pay if you are dismissed within the first six months.

Some exclusion clauses are vague. The Cheltenham and Gloucester building society's Payment Plan will not pay out for "disability resulting from a pre-existing medical condition" while the Yorkshire building society's plan excludes "any pre-existing medical conditions".

Peter Lloyd, managing director of Security Pacific, specialising in mortgage protection, has a warning for back pain sufferers. "People with back ache may have to be able to show radiological evidence of damage," he said.

Dr Farrand believes snags arise over the health clauses because people are not required to fill in a proper proposal form for mortgage protection policies. "Instead of asking detailed questions about a client's health, the insurance companies insert broad exclusion clauses."

The ombudsman is also concerned at the growing number of claims that policyholders were not told about reductions in benefits. General Accident recently cut benefits and increased premiums on policies it underwrites for 60 lenders, including the Abbey National. Other insurance companies have followed suit.

Insurance companies argue that the recession has forced them to pay out on hundreds of thousands of mortgage protection policies. They have lost considerable sums and have to redress the balance by increasing premiums and cutting benefits. The Woolwich, for example, says that it was paying out £1.45 in claims for every £1 it received in premiums before the rates were increased.

Independent financial advisers are reluctant to encourage their clients to take out the policies. Martin Mullany, of Brooks Macdonald Gayer, said: "Permanent health insurance would provide a better deal. A 30-year-old with a £50,000 mortgage repayable over 25 years could cover his interest repayments and endowment policy or personal equity plan for less than £10 a month."

The company says that the man visited his doctor for "ringing in the ears" before taking out the policy and is thus disqualified from claiming under the exclusion clause covering "pre-existing medical conditions". It is pursuing its argument even though the doctor did not recognise the condition as a potential tumour and treated the man for wax in the ears.



Honoured guest the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber al-Ahmad al-Sabah, greeting Margaret Thatcher at his Bayan palace yesterday. She and her son Mark

arrived in Kuwait on Saturday for a four-day visit. As a political storm raged at home over her call for a referendum on Europe, she was feted in Kuwait for supporting the

emirate during the Gulf war. Yesterday the Emir presented her with Kuwait's highest honour, the Mubarak al-Kabir medal. Kuwait's al-Rai al-Aam newspaper

commented: "Thatcher, you are in our hearts." The former prime minister will use her visit to publicise the Thatcher Institute. Trial of strength, page 1

## Trapped by the exclusion clause

A SUSSEX businessman, made redundant nearly two years ago, has been threatened with losing his home, in spite of holding a mortgage protection policy which should have guaranteed his monthly payments being met until he found another job. (Tony Dawe writes.)

He says that his insurance company invoked two inapplicable exclusion clauses to avoid meeting his claim and then made bogus statements about his circumstances. He is taking the company, Security Pacific, of Richmond, Southwest London, to court and has won an order to stay the repossession of his house.

His case is one of an increasing number involving mortgage protection policies which are coming before the High Court or being investigated by the insurance ombudsman.

The businessman said: "I wish I had never taken out the policy because, without it, my mortgage company and the Department of Social Security would probably have come to my aid."

He became redundant two years ago and realised that, under the terms of his protection policy, he had to continue to meet his mortgage repayments for two months. He says Security Pacific argued that his claim was "out-

side the qualifying period". The businessman won that argument but was then told that, because of the takeover of his company, he had not been in work with the same employer for the previous 12 months, as required by the policy. He was next informed that the insurers had paid that he was still in paid employment.

"I was merely giving my former company unpaid assistance because I wanted to survive," he says. "The whole thing has been an absolute nightmare."

Security Pacific declined to comment on the case because of the impending court proceedings.

In another case, being considered by the ombudsman, the family of a London man who has suffered a brain tumour is fighting to get his insurance company to pay up under the disability clause of his policy.

The company says that the man visited his doctor for "ringing in the ears" before taking out the policy and is thus disqualified from claiming under the exclusion clause covering "pre-existing medical conditions". It is pursuing its argument even though the doctor did not recognise the condition as a potential tumour and treated the man for wax in the ears.

## House prices 'to rise'

By CHRISTOPHER WARMAN PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

HOUSE prices will begin a gradual recovery from next spring, giving a 3 per cent rise in 1992 and a 9 per cent increase in 1993, according to a report on the prospects for the housing market over the next five years.

Charterhouse, the merchant and investment banking group, reports that the number of housing transactions increased in the third quarter of this year, which on the evidence of previous housing cycles indicates an upturn in house prices a year later.

The report says that while consumer spending power has risen in the second half of this year, spending growth is lagging by up to nine months as consumers rebuild savings and reduce debt. At the same time the housing market has been held back by fears of unemployment and the low level of confidence. Publicity over repossessions has reinforced buyers' caution.

The study argues that with the possibility of a minority government, spending could accelerate through 1992 and 1993 before being curbed by higher interest rates after a second election, checking the rise in house prices.

Predicting lower wages and price inflation, Charterhouse says that this will be reflected in a lower rate of growth in house prices, averaging 5 per cent in the five years to 1996.

## Lasers offer cancer treatment

By NICK NUTTALL TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH medical researchers are considering linking lasers and light-reactive drugs to create a new treatment for pancreatic cancer.

The plan is being considered by a team at University College and Middlesex school of medicine, London. With colleagues at Liverpool, Leeds and Southampton universities, the team is pioneering laser-based ways of treating everything from breast cancer to tumours of the liver, lungs and prostate gland.

Yesterday it was disclosed that 50 breast cancer patients at the Royal Surrey Hospital, Guildford, would be used to test the laser surgery after

successful pilot studies by the team. The technique offers an end to the need for conventional surgery, which causes unsightly scars and can lead to breast removal.

Needles and optical fibres the width of a pin are inserted through the patient's skin into the tumorous cells. The researchers then fire a high-powered laser beam into the area to "cook" the cancer, killing its cells in minutes. The laser heats the tissue to about 100C, which can damage healthy, surrounding tissue, making it particularly hazardous for use on organs such as the lungs, the thyroid and the prostate.

Stephen Bown, director of the national medical laser centre at the school, said tests were proceeding very cautiously. "You have to worry what is next to the tumour," he said. "If the tumour is next to a vital structure, such as a large blood vessel, it could cause the blood vessel to burst."

One solution lies in better imaging techniques that ensure the laser is more precisely directed. Professor Bown said two nuclear magnetic resonance scanners had been installed at the school, which the team hoped to test with the laser surgery. The researchers are also trying to

assess how far the laser heat spreads inside a treated organ.

Another approach, which the team has tried on two rectal cancer patients in the past three weeks and is now considering for pancreatic cancer, is to combine the high-powered laser with a lower-powered one and photochemical drugs. The high-powered laser would tackle large accessible cancers in the organ and the drugs, which accumulate in the cancer tissues, would be "triggered" by light from a low-powered laser to poison tumours too hazardous to treat using the high-powered laser alone.

## Beware: heavy car clamping ahead

By MICHAEL DYNES TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

WHEEL clamping and vehicle removals are to be extended to all 33 London boroughs under the most comprehensive assault on illegal parking since the introduction of traffic wardens in 1960.

The new London Parking Committee, made up of representatives of the 33 boroughs, meets for the first time tomorrow to begin work on a new parking regime for London, which will include higher fines, increased enforcement and a new adjudication procedure for complaints from motorists.

Under the changes introduced by the Road Traffic Act, traffic wardens will be deployed exclusively on the red route network and where there are double yellow lines. From April, the £16 parking ticket will rise to £40 on a red route, and to £30 on a double yellow line. The new fines will increase the total cost of a wheel clamp to a maximum of £75 and vehicle removal to £125.

The legislation also gives criminalised illegal parking in most other areas, transferring the right of enforcement to boroughs. Councils are now working out how to enforce their power



Open road: another car heads for the pound

ers. Although the details are still being settled, the outcomes are clear. The existing flat rate £16 ticket will be replaced by bands reflecting the level of illegal parking in different areas. Proposals include placing central London in a higher £40 band, suburban town centres such as Croydon, Uxbridge and Walthamstow in a middle £30 band, and leaving other areas in a lower £20 band.

Each borough will be able to recruit uniformed parking enforcement officers who will have the power to issue tickets, wheel clamps

and to remove vehicles to local pounds. Staff are expected to work on incentives schemes. All monies collected will be kept by the local authorities instead of being handed over to the Home Office, so the system will be self-financing.

Failure to enforce existing parking regulations is widely seen as one of the main causes of traffic congestion in London. In 1982, the parliamentary transport committee called for the number of traffic wardens to be increased to 4,000. Because of the cost, however, it has never exceeded 1,300. Under

the new system, the target will be met easily. A new adjudication service will be created, effectively replacing the magistrates' courts, for motorists who feel they have been unjustly ticketed, clamped or removed. Complaintants will be able to appeal to local authorities, which will be able to cancel tickets. Motorists will also have a right of appeal to independent adjudicators, who will have the final say.

Westminster, Kensington and Chelsea, and Camden are expected to be among the first boroughs to implement the new regime as early as next October, with the rest following in 1993-4.

Nick Lester, the planning and transport officer of the Labour-controlled Association of London Authorities, calculates that the income from legal and illegal parking under the new system is likely to exceed £200 million a year, and that illegal parking will be cut by over 50 per cent.

Automatic cameras at traffic lights can cut red light running by up to a half, according to a report published today by the AA's road safety foundation.

The motoring organisation is expected to argue that the benefits of installing such cameras justify the £20,000 cost.



The Evidence.  
Twin lens with databack.

The Verdict.  
European compact of the year.

## The case for the Fuji DL500.

## The Appeal.

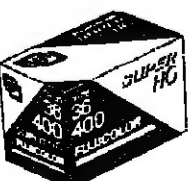
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# Britain backs Brussels in dispute with the French

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN BRUSSELS

CARLO Ripa di Meana, the European commissioner for the environment, denounced by John Major for intruding into the "nooks and crannies" of Britain, is looking to the British government as his main ally in smashing French obstruction of the new European environment agency.

The commissioner has received warm encouragement from Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, for his fight against what he calls France's "shameful blackmail" in holding up agreement on a permanent site for the agency. Signor Ripa di Meana has been assured that Britain will use its presidency of the Community next year to confront France over its refusal to agree any permanent site until Strasbourg is confirmed as the seat of the European parliament.

"Mr Heseltine even teased me to be active and stand firm," he told *The Times*. "I cannot keep silent any longer about this scandalous French blackmail."

He said he had tried everything to break the deadlock since the agency was established more than a year ago. Other member states were not prepared to face down the French. He was not hopeful that the Dutch could do so at Maastricht or the Portuguese when they take over the EC presidency in January.

"I have discussed this repeatedly with Mr Heseltine," he said. "Only the British have the might and power to convince the French." Until a site is found, the agency cannot begin work and officials may now look for a temporary home in Brussels with meetings held in a city that rotated with the EC presidency.

Signor Ripa di Meana noted the irony of Mr Heseltine's support, coming after the outburst over the commissioner's

letter to Malcolm Rifkind, the transport secretary, in which he called for a halt to seven big engineering projects until environmental impact assessments had been made.

He said he had intervened so often in British issues not because Britain had a worse record than other states — indeed it was much better than that of Italy and most southern EC members — but because 80 per cent of all complaints to Brussels came from Britain. He said he was able to intervene only in response to such complaints. The proposed environment agency, monitoring pollution in each state, would give a more balanced picture and avoid the impression that he was attacking Britain.

Signor Ripa di Meana said he was hurt by the prime minister's denunciation. He respected Britain's environmental activism. But he had no regrets. He had waited seven months before taking action and concluded after fruitless meetings with British officials that the government was dragging its feet. "Should I have waited until a forest was cut down? The European Court may back me, but it will be too late."

He defended publicising the letter — which earned him a furious rebuke from Jacques Delors, the EC president — saying it could not have been kept secret. "I would say Mr Rifkind is a friend. But it was a political letter, not a secret one." He had treated Italy, Germany, Spain and Portugal, also facing court action for ignoring environment assessment requirements, no differently.

He said he was determined to strengthen environmental protection during his term in office, and he believed, from the letters he received, especially from Britain, that public opinion was on his side.

He regretted that the commission was now under public attack, not only in Britain, and had largely been sidelined in the debate leading up to the Maastricht summit.

He called it absurd that the environment agency had still not begun work. It would make Europe a laughing stock at next year's World Environment Conference in Rio de Janeiro, he said. Europeans could not call for reductions in carbon dioxide output from others if they could not agree among themselves on monitoring their own regulatory approach.



Ripa di Meana: strong support from Heseltine

## Anglers missing at sea

Two men were feared drowned last night after a boat taking 14 anglers on a fishing trip sank yesterday a mile from the Mumbles light-house near Swansea.

Twelve people were rescued after the skipper of the 32ft Luke John, chartered from the Midlands, radioed a may-day message.

A search involving the Mumbles lifeboat, two sand dredgers and a dozen pleasure craft, led by a helicopter from RAF Chivenor, Devon, was called off for the night.

## Thorpe home

Jeremy Thorpe, aged 62, the former Liberal party leader, has returned home after undergoing brain surgery for Parkinson's disease at the Parkinson Centre for Neurology and Neurosurgery, at Smethwick, West Midlands.

## £5m drug haul

Customs officers at Holyhead, Gwynedd, have seized cocaine worth £5 million from an aluminium ore carrier from Jamaica. Two men will appear before Holyhead magistrates today.

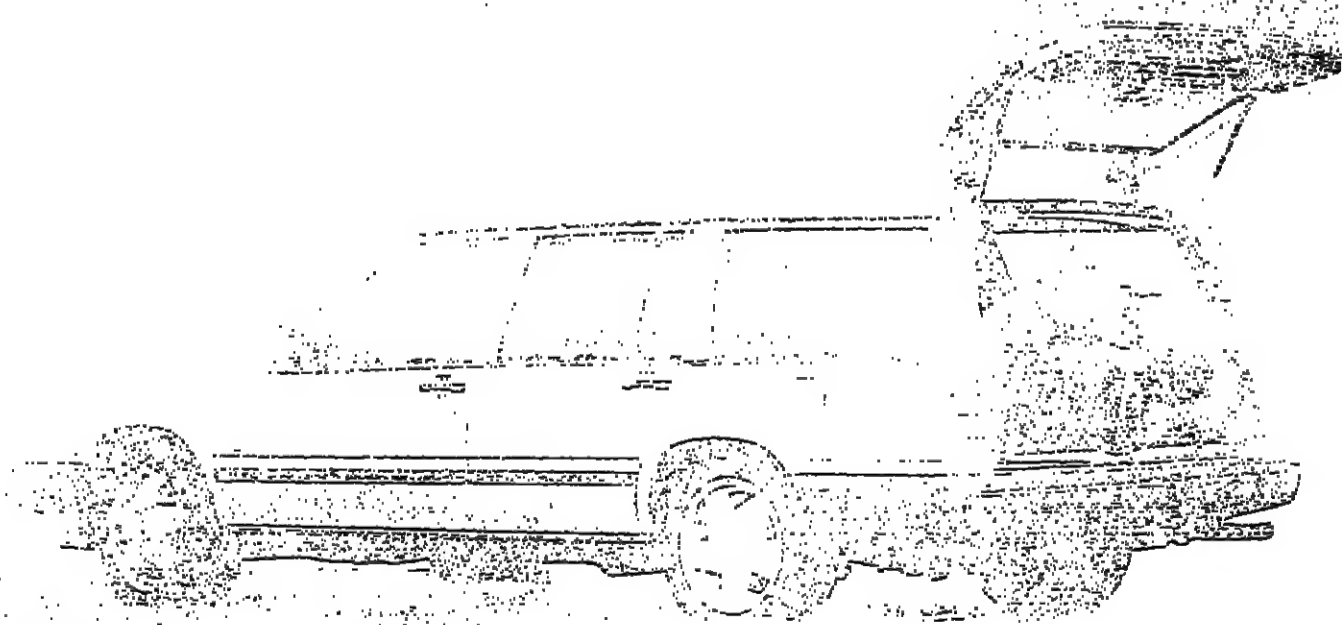
## Party goes on

About 1,000 youngsters held a party in an underpass at Crowthorne, Berkshire, after police had earlier turned away almost 200 from the intended venue near Woodstock, Oxfordshire.

## Bond winners

Winners in the weekly National Savings Premium Bonds prize draw are: £100,000, number 138F; £100,001, number 138F; £100,002, number 138F; £100,003, number 138F; £100,004, number 138F; £100,005, number 138F; £100,006, number 138F; £100,007, number 138F; £100,008, number 138F; £100,009, number 138F; £100,010, number 138F; £100,011, number 138F; £100,012, number 138F; £100,013, number 138F; £100,014, number 138F; £100,015, number 138F; £100,016, number 138F; £100,017, number 138F; £100,018, number 138F; £100,019, number 138F; £100,020, number 138F; £100,021, number 138F; £100,022, number 138F; £100,023, number 138F; £100,024, number 138F; £100,025, number 138F; £100,026, number 138F; £100,027, number 138F; £100,028, number 138F; £100,029, number 138F; £100,030, number 138F; £100,031, number 138F; £100,032, number 138F; £100,033, number 138F; £100,034, number 138F; £100,035, number 138F; £100,036, number 138F; £100,037, number 138F; £100,038, number 138F; £100,039, number 138F; £100,040, number 138F; 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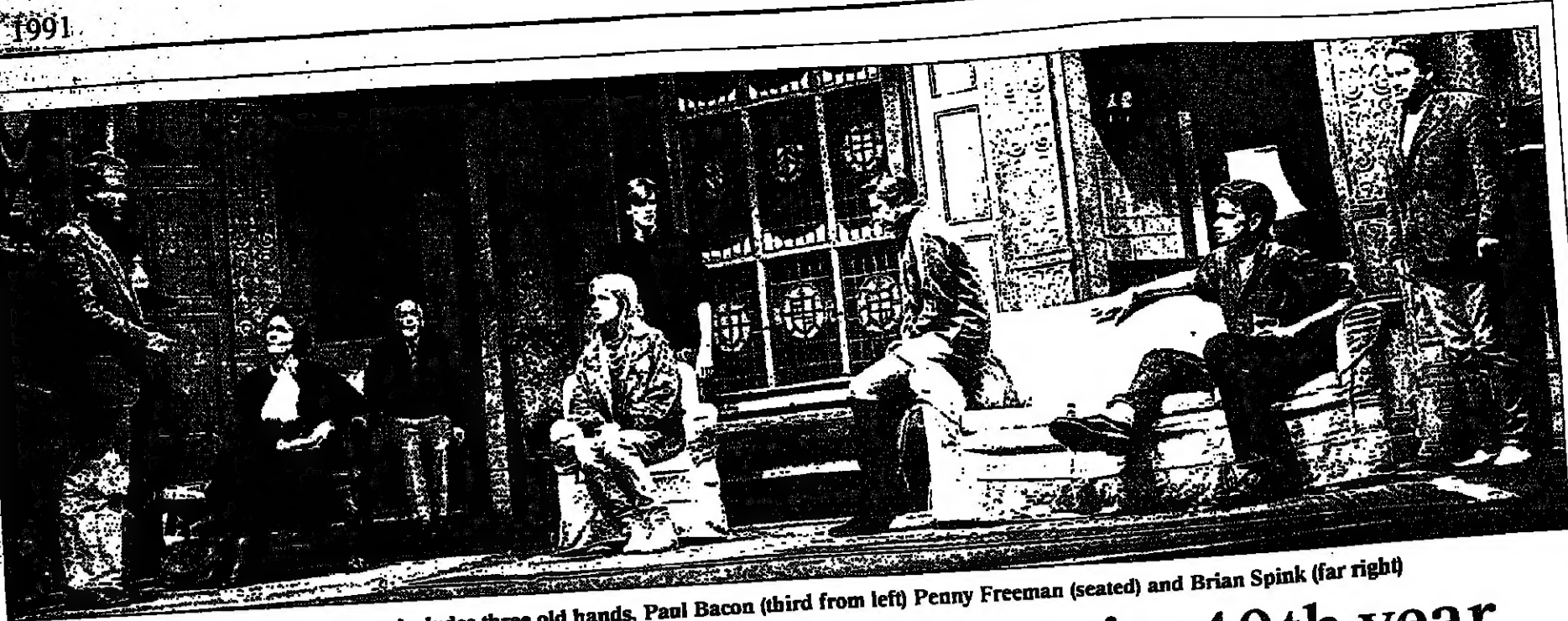
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First act: Richard Attenborough and Sheila Sim in the 1952 production of *The Mousetrap*.



New blood: the fresh cast includes three old hands. Paul Bacon (third from left) Penny Freeman (seated) and Brian Spink (far right)

## Fresh blood as whodunit enters its 40th year

By Robin Young

IT BEGAN as a 30-minute radio play written at the request of Queen Mary, the Queen Mother. Today, Agatha Christie's thriller *The Mousetrap* enters its fortieth year in the West End. It has been the longest-running production of any kind in the British theatre since it overtook the five and a half year run of *Chu Chin Chow* in April 1958. The world record fell in December 1971.

Since there is no possibility that the show will end its run in the coming 12 months, Sir Peter

Saunders, its producer, has already booked the play's ruby anniversary party at the Savoy Hotel next year.

On Saturday they were turning customers away for both the matinee and evening performances at the St Martin's theatre, where *The Mousetrap* has been set since March 1974. The first 22 years of its uninterrupted run were at the Ambassadors next door.

Saturday's evening show, the 16,232nd to date, was the last for the 39th year cast, headed by Madeline Smith and Tony Bonca, and directed by Richard Digby-Day. A complete cast change and a new

director every year has become Sir Peter's policy for keeping *The Mousetrap* cheese fresh.

Tonight Simon Tait and Maev Alexander take over the roles which were played by Richard Attenborough and Sheila Sim when the show opened in 1952. The director is David Turner, last in charge in the show's 36th year.

Three of the incoming cast have been in the play before: Brian Spink, who was the hotel keeper in 1967, 1973 and 1975 and now returns as one of the suspect guests; Paul Bacon, who first auditioned for his part 30 years ago and

first played it 26 years later, and Penelope Freeman, who was one of the 38th year cast.

In all, the play's eight parts have been played by 251 actors and actresses, backed by 117 understudies and 20 directors. Nancy Seabrooke, who has been understudying the part of Mrs Boyle for the past 12 years, holds the record for longest continuous service.

There were three large coach parties on Saturday night, and one, booked by an American travel agency, at the matinee. "For many people, *The Mousetrap* is an essential part of the London itinerary,

right up with the Houses of Parliament and the Tower of London," said the Americans' leader.

Like several others, a mother and daughter were visiting the theatre for a birthday treat. "It was going to be either a comedy or a thriller," said the daughter, "but I never dreamed that we should have to book for anything that had been on so long."

Sir Peter Saunders was celebrating a birthday on Saturday too. It was his 80th. Perhaps he and his wife, Katie Boyle, could be forgiven for not treating themselves to a night out at *The Mousetrap*.

## Judges support mediation out of court

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

JUDGES are backing Bar proposals for a pilot scheme which could remove a large number of disputes from the court system by encouraging people to resolve their differences through mediation.

The Bar's proposals, outlined in a report today on alternative dispute resolution, are aimed at finding ways to reduce the costs and delays in using the law to resolve disputes.

### Cash cut 'delays justice'

SOME magistrates' courts in London are predicting they will be crippled by cuts in staffing levels and increases in delays for hearings when new cash-limited funding arrangements come in next April (Frances Gibb writes).

The warnings have been made by the clerks to the magistrates' courts committees in response to a survey by *The Lawyer* magazine published today.

Eric Packer, of the Outer London Justices' Clerks Society, said: "The effect could be 10 per cent staff reduction in magistrates' courts. It could cripple the sort of service that people have come to expect." One clerk reported that some magistrates have started to cut the number of judgments they grant.

Wiltshire magistrates' court is to close next spring. Dyfed courts committee is reviewing plans to avoid closing 11 of its 5 court houses.

scheme is envisaged in the county courts and in a division of the High Court. The proposals have been discussed with county court judges in London, who are willing in principle to take part in a trial scheme.

Another benefit of the proposals is that people would not be constrained by the court timetable. The mediation sessions could be held out of hours, at times convenient for the parties, including evenings.

The report was produced by a committee under Lord Justice Beldam, the Court of Appeal judge. Philip Naughton, QC, a committee member, said: "We believe that a voluntary system of mediation or alternative dispute resolution might benefit many parties to legal action." Sending disputes out of court had advantages and in the long term could cut the legal aid bill, he said.

Under the scheme, parties could use a mediator based at or near the court who would help them to reach solutions but not impose or suggest one. A pilot project is proposed in three or four county court centres, with a target of 100 mediations in each centre.

The Bar says that legal representation should be available if anyone wants it and that the mediators could be lawyers with at least seven years' experience and training in mediation.

The scheme could cover such county court cases as debt collection, personal injury and other small claims. As the scheme would be voluntary, if the process failed, normal rights to pursue a claim in the courts would remain.

## Naval chaplains fight for reprieve

By Michael Horsnell

THE defence ministry is reviewing its plans to disperse with 22 chaplains of the Royal Naval Reserve who regularly minister to the spiritual needs of Britain's mariners at sea and on land.

The Anglican clergymen, who have their own parishes but assist the full-time 90-strong chaplains' department of the Royal Navy, were listed to be dropped in a little noticed paragraph in the options for change defence review at a saving of £70,000 a year.

The defence ministry, however, is now reviewing their future after the intervention of the Ven Michael Henley, Chaplain of the Fleet.

David Barlow, his secretary, said: "We were informed of the changes rather late in the proceedings and the matter is now being reconsidered by the Ministry of Defence. These chaplains look after naval

establishments when the Royal Navy chaplains are on leave. They have certainly been valuable to us. It would be unfortunate to lose them and their demise is being resisted."

The Rev Bill Meyer, vicar of St Luke's at Grayshot, Hampshire, who served with the Royal Navy for six years and has been a member of the RNR since 1963, is one of the chaplains under threat. Mr Meyer, who performs regular duties at fleet headquarters, said: "It would be a tremendous wrench for me. My view is that the spiritual needs of sailors are important and we should not have to abandon them just so that money may be saved."

If the cuts are approved, the work of the 22 RNR chaplains is expected to be taken over by clergymen from parishes in which naval establishments are based.

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## Shotgun groups say police are aiming low on licences

Tim Jones reports on shooters' fears that the police are gunning for them as public concern over firearms grows

BRITAIN'S two main shooting organisations are blaming police harassment for a big drop in the number of people holding shotgun certificates, and claim that the government would like shooting banned.

The allegations follow publication of statistics which indicate that 190 "shooters" a day are surrendering the right to have a gun in the home. The number of shotgun certificates fell by 62,800 to 802,300 last year, while the number licensed to hold firearms dropped 6,900 to 142,000. The sport is also suffering from the recession, with some leading gun-makers, such as W & C Scott, closing after deciding that there was no longer the business to sustain production of its £4,500 standard double-barrelled shotgun.

The British Association for Shooting and Conservation (BASC) and the Clay Pigeon Shooting Association claim

that the Home Office took panic measures after the Hungerford massacre in 1987, in which 16 people were killed by a rampaging gunman. According to the associations, the Firearms (Amendment) Act of 1988 that followed the killings was drafted in haste and has led to widespread inconsistencies in enforcement of the law.

Moves this week by Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, to urge police to adopt new guidelines on issuing certificates have received only qualified welcome.

A report from Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte and the Centre for Police and Criminal Justice Studies of the University of Exeter, commissioned by the BASC, claimed

that the 1988 act had led to variations in administrative procedure with respect to shotgun certification, "some of which appear to be neither efficient or have sound basis in law".

The report documents concern about alleged over-zealous application of the act, administrative confusion, increasing conflict and growing tension between legitimate firearms owners and the police.

The report says that, while the 1988 act makes clear that a request for a shotgun certificate should not be refused "merely because the applicant neither intends to use the gun personally nor to lend it to anyone else", some police forces insist on knowing

where holders have permission to shoot.

There is also widespread confusion over security measures. While most police forces now insist on the installation of secure gun cabinets, others go further and say that alarm systems and special door and window locks should be fitted. Some shooters claim that it is better to "break" a gun and hide both parts than to keep a complete weapon in a cabinet.

The shooting organisations are angry that they have not been invited to have a representative on the Firearms Consultative Committee, established under the 1988 act to review the working of the legislation. When four new members of the committee were appointed recently, John Swift, the BASC director, said: "This is like excluding the Church of England from a committee debating ecclesiastical matters. Some of the appointments are, frankly, political manoeuvring to try to emasculate the committee."

"There is a feeling that this Conservative government would even be happy if no one was allowed to own a gun."

### ISSUE OF SHOTGUN CERTIFICATES

	New certificate		Renewal of certificate		Certificates on
	Granted	Refused	Granted	Refused	issue at 31 Dec
1983	46,600	500	233,700	170	783,400
1984	55,600	580	233,000	150	798,400
1985	60,500	690	232,900	170	818,300
1986	64,100	810	239,900	180	841,000
1987	65,000	960	248,300	230	881,300
1988	59,800	980	245,000	340	882,000
1989	47,500	970	226,200	330	885,100
1990	37,800	550	213,500	650	802,300

Source: Home Office

## Community fights plans to sell off its local

### Regulars say pub closure is the dregs

Ickleton might support only one pub, but locals say the brewery is shutting the wrong one. David Young reports

Accountant Colin Lindsey, who rears rare breeds of cows, sheep and pigs in his spare time, is now attempting to save another endangered species: his village pub.

Like many other small rural communities, Ickleton, in Cambridgeshire, has found its pub threatened by a combination of the recession and the government's ruling that the brewers must limit the number of pubs they own.

Until recently there were two pubs in the village, but one, the Red Lion, was owned by Ind Coope, which is having to cut back the number of pubs it owns to bring it under the 2,000 threshold. The pub was bought by the Suffolk brewer Greene King, which already owned the other pub, the smaller New Inn used by most of the locals. Greene King now plans to refurbish the Red Lion and next month will ask Cambridge district council for change-of-use permission to sell the New Inn as a private residence.

It would seem a sensible decision, as it is unlikely that, in the present economic climate, a village the size of Ickleton could support two pubs. The locals, however, prefer the New Inn with its public bar, functional rather than plush furniture and its lack of fruit machines, jukebox and pool table.

Mr Lindsey, who has an accountancy business in Bishop's Stortford — in a building that was a pub until 1932 — and some other locals have decided that they will try to buy the New Inn and retain it as it is.

Mr Lindsey has offered the brewer £75,000 and promised to spend a further £50,000 on essential repairs, but Greene King has had a higher offer for the premises as a private house.

"We hope that we could sell shares to the villagers and either run the pub with a manager or lease it to a couple," Mr Lindsey said. "It could be viable if it was run as pubs in this area traditionally were, with one of the partners having a full-time job during the day," Mr Lindsey said.

The parish council has given its support. Councillor Clare Willmott said: "The Monopolies and Mergers Commission report on pubs was never intended to take away choice from the consumer, but that is what has

happened. It is simply a matter that many of the village prefer the New Inn and want to keep it as a pub."

Greene King's view is that the interest of the village would be best served by having one well-run large pub, and it is committed to supporting the new landlord Jonathan Clarke, a director of the brewery, said: "What we want to create is a happy and friendly village pub that caters for everyone's needs. We are sure we will be able to achieve that."

The campaigners have found that they could easily raise the cash to bid for the pub from two other brewers, which illustrates clearly the nonsensical position in which many in the trade find themselves. Brewers are required to cut back on the pubs they are putting them on the market at prices or rents that sitting tenants cannot afford.

One Cambridge landlord found, however, that while he could not buy his existing pub, he could afford one put on the market in the same street by a rival brewery. With a loan from the free-trade department of his own brewery, a department run from the same headquarters building as the tenanted-house division which was selling off his existing pub, he was able to buy it. He moved along the road, taking his regulars and leaving behind what had been a viable pub with few customers.

The licensed trade now estimates that there are more than 3,000 pubs on the property market, many of which will be sold as private residences.

Whitbread alone has 45 pubs and hotels which it is seeking to dispose of and he launched a One Stop Pub Shop initiative, with exhibitions at which potential landlords can examine details of the pubs on offer and discuss matters with financial advisers, agents and accountants.



Lindsey: offered to buy the pub for £75,000

## India warms to sexual freedom

Condoms, extra-marital relations and erotic videos are no longer taboo in India, reports Christopher Thomas

INDIA is shedding some of its sexual taboos. Magazines are showing topless women, and the film industry is moving beyond the clinging wet sari as the ultimate in erotica.

The impact of Aids, which has established a firm hold, has led to sexually explicit advertising of condoms, bringing complaints about prurience in magazines and on advertising billboards. The government, too, is upset by the unfamiliar frankness, but is afraid of doing anything that might stem the unprecedented sales of condoms.

Women object strongly to the tone of some advertisements. One has a man tugging a woman by the hair, with the exhortation: "Show her who's boss."

Kama Sutra brand shows topless women and half-naked couples in some advertisements, a radical departure from the earlier demure approach in which condoms were for married couples only. The advertisement quotes passages from the Kama Sutra on "acting as a man", on "the behaviour of a couple", and on "courting a maid".

Such advertisements have opened the floodgates. Articles in the Indian press have discussed the new sexual openness, which in turn has given them an excuse to publish pin-ups as a way of demonstrating what is going on.

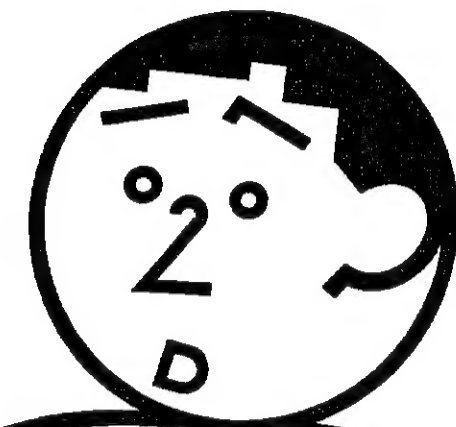
Debonair magazine, based in Bombay and regarded as India's conserva-

tive equivalent of Playboy, conducted a sex survey, among its readers which revealed that many educated urban men and women have sex before marriage and are frequently unfaithful after it. Sunday magazine proclaimed in a cover story yesterday: "Hard-selling sex: a new permissiveness sweeps advertising, publishing — and society." It said: "Suddenly sex is in the air. Twenty-five years after it swept the West, the sexual revolution has finally hit India."

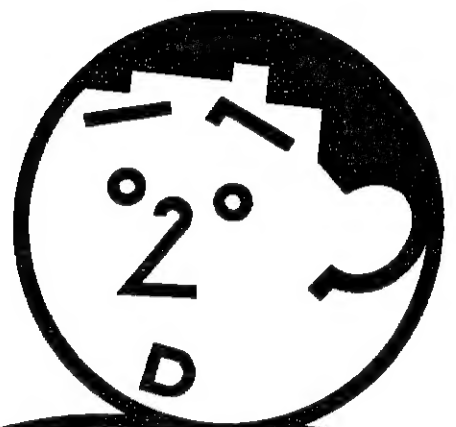
Nowhere is the new urban openness more evident than in Bombay. Cinema billboards have become explicit — more so in fact than the censored film they advertise. But the film industry, struggling to respond to the expectations of audiences familiar with pirated Playboy videos, is getting away with increasingly erotic scenes.

The censor's irrelevance to better-off Indians is being reinforced by the recent arrival of satellite television, which brings in foreign films and is now available in all main cities.

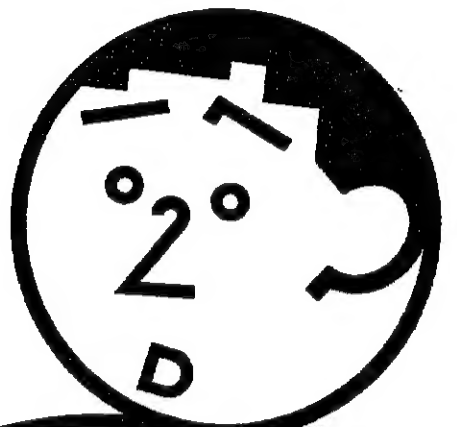
Most Indian marriages are still arranged, often through the advertising columns of Sunday newspapers. The custom of advertising for a partner was taken a stage further by The Bombayite, a magazine which often comes with its pages stapled together. Stardust, the leading film magazine, has opened its pages to unprejudiced erotica. Four-letter words pepper the articles, a new development that is not reflected in Indian films, which are increasingly mocked by audiences for their prudery.



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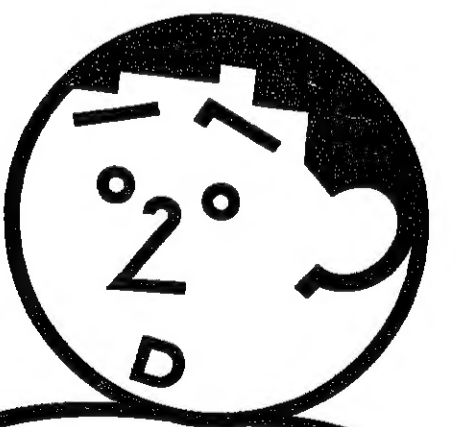


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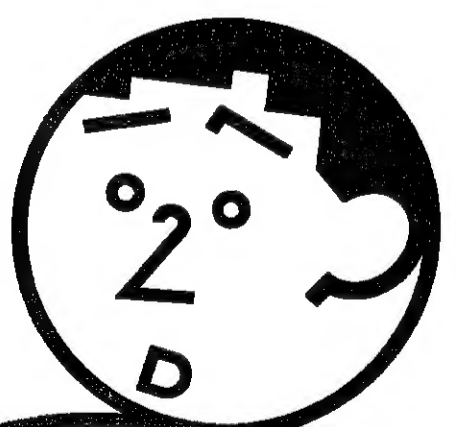


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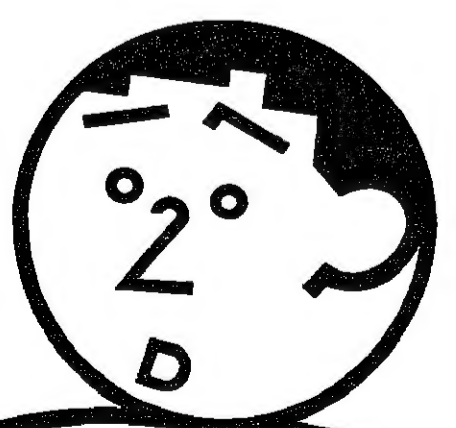
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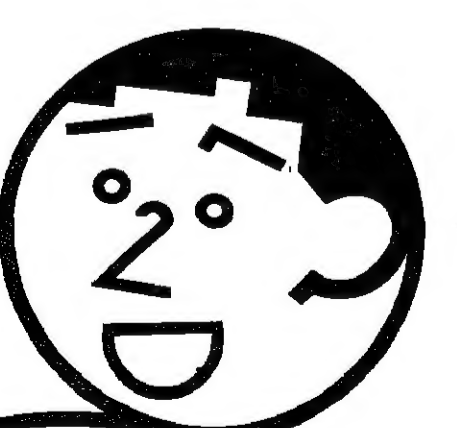
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# Germany admires its own image in mirror of new Europe



Kohl: nothing to fear from integration

HELMUT Kohl, the German chancellor, said in an interview broadcast yesterday that he was optimistic that the European Community summit in Maastricht would succeed. He told French television that Europeans had nothing to fear from economic and political integration: "I advise anyone afraid of the Germans to join in building a firm roof over this Germany, over this Europe, then these fears will be completely overcome," he said.

During the pre-summit negotiations, Mr Kohl has often said that German unity and European unity are two sides of the same coin. Until very recently there has been little dissent in the press. While Britain worries

about losing too much sovereignty, since unification Germany has been worried about gaining too much. After its disastrous flirtation with nationalism, modern Germany prefers to be seen as a recently assembled collection of federal states with distinct personalities and few international aspirations.

Local sovereignty is seen as the best way of countering Brussels hegemony. The *Süddeutsche Zeitung* argued the need to strengthen the *Länder*. "Anyone who opposes the restructuring of the federalist system in Germany is, in the final analysis, supporting the European centralist state. Tiny German states cannot receive or retain independent powers in a European union."

Helmut Kohl says that European and German unity are complementary, but some commentators have doubts, writes Ian Murray in Bonn

The *Frankfurter Rundschau* said that West Germany used to be "a prosperous economic power with very little responsibility outside the EC and Nato". But now America saw "the economically greater, central power Germany" as having replaced Britain and France as "crucial for the destiny of Europe. These expectations are accompanied by requirements that may not be in Germany's interest". The *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* also looked back

almost nostalgically, to the days before the Berlin Wall came down. "Until unification nearly everyone was satisfied with the good Germans, with the Germans most satisfied of all with themselves... They went on to become models of detente propriety... although scruples were voiced on whether it was right to accept such a cornucopia of good fortune. But... neighbours in East and West have scant patience with German scruples... Germany must steer well

clear of going it alone. All endeavours to devise a new strategy for Nato, to set up the European Community as a political union and to provide the Western European Union with a role depend on a united Germany in the heart of Europe making its contribution."

There is no public debate about Germany being "in the heart of Europe". The EC has been good to Germany. A wider, deeper Europe seems ultimately no more than a way to a wider hope for peaceful coexistence and a deeper bank balance.

This stems in part from the fact that, whereas the EC has hitherto been modelled on a French system, the EC after unification is expected to look more like a German federal

state. Newspapers do not feel the need to explain in detail how it will work. The treaty on political union looks forward to a system modelled very much on the way the *Länder* relate to Bonn.

There are some sceptics, such as Thomas Kleiner, the Anglophile editor of the *Rheinischer Merkur*. "Forced unity stipulated by some political union can just as easily paralyse as stimulate action and... Europeans... would look even worse if a decision to do nothing was rooted in institutional coercion rather than free will."

But only recently, thanks largely to coverage of British reservations, has there begun to be questioning of what might happen. The

*Süddeutsche Zeitung* said: "For the British, European political union as reflected in Brussels documents would amount to colonisation. Most of Britain's criticism of Brussels is undoubtedly right. This EC structured along French administrative lines means the launching of a bureaucratic centralism in Europe."

The paper argued that failure at Maastricht would be a disaster because it would signal to the world that the EC was no longer the power centre of Europe. It added that "no country needs [European] integration as urgently as Germany if it is to live in peace".

Tory battle, page 1  
Education meeting, page 27

## Yugoslavs accept UN peace force

FROM DESSA TREVISAN IN BELGRADE AND MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE United Nations yesterday moved a step closer to deploying a peacekeeping force in Yugoslavia after the 14th ceasefire in five months came into operation last night. Leaders of all the factions told Cyrus Vance, the former American secretary of state acting as a special UN envoy to Yugoslavia, that they wanted peacekeeping troops "as soon as possible".

Speaking in Rome after the weekend ceasefire talks in Geneva, Mr Vance said the warring parties could agree final details in the deployment of a UN peacekeeping force within a week if the latest ceasefire held. Gianni De Michelis, the Italian foreign minister, urged the UN to act swiftly. "There is a need for rapid action, fitting a short space of time," he said after meeting Mr Vance and Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the UN secretary-general also in Rome on an official visit. Italy would be prepared to send troops.

Francis Tudjman, Croatia's president, who gave a televised "address to the nation" last night, also appealed to world leaders to send international forces immediately.

Señor Pérez de Cuellar, who met Mr Vance in Rome, said detailed planning for the deployment of UN troops in

Yugoslavia had already started. However, Serbian and Croatian leaders failed to agree on where the troops should be deployed.

Serbia wants UN peacekeepers to separate the warring sides on Croatian territory. Croatia, which fears territorial gains made by Serbia, wants them on the official border between the two republics. Mr Vance said that peace would not be restored "by placing soldiers on either side of a white line".

He said there was no decision on how many troops would be sent or what their situation on the ground would be. He said: "One first has to define where the exact flashpoints are and examine what the terrain is like, how many of them would be infantry, how many would be police. That's why we need another week or so."

Sending UN troops to Yugoslavia would need approval by the UN Security Council. Mr Vance said UN officials would discuss the peacekeeping plan again this week to prepare a detailed report for the security council. Britain is expected to join a peacekeeping force, though with only a minimum commitment.

Señor Pérez de Cuellar said that recognition of the breakaway republics of Croatia and Slovenia was "out of the question right now".

Fighting continued unrelentingly in the eastern Slavonia region before the start of the new ceasefire. In Osijek, the population spent another day, the fifth in succession, under heavy artillery and mortar shell fire. At least eight people were killed and 55 wounded.

• Zagreb: Croatia says President Tudjman's government is trying to muzzle growing opposition by detaining Dobroslav Paraga, the popular right-wing head of the ultra-nationalist Croatian Party of Rights, who was seized outside his home on Friday. He can apparently be held for a month without any charge. (Reuters)



## Navies take out refugees

FROM TIM JUDAH IN RUEKA

WITHOUT waiting for approval from the Western European Union, France and Italy have begun to police a naval corridor off Yugoslavia to ensure that relief supplies reach the beleaguered Croatian port of Dubrovnik.

While HMS Fearless, the British warship earmarked for a NEU operation, remains anchored in Venice, the Italian cruiser *Minerva* is patrolling the Adriatic. Over the weekend it escorted a French navy medical support ship, *Rance*, from Dubrovnik to Rijeka with 317 refugees on board, more than 100 of them children.

Last week the Italian naval hospital ship *San Marco* delivered medical supplies, water and food to Dubrovnik. The aid was escorted by a "humanitarian corridor" policed by Western navies has been advanced by Bernard Kouchner, the French minister of humanitarian action. He has been working in close co-operation with the United Nations Children's Fund, which has been co-ordinating aid to the besieged city over the past week.

Before the arrival of the ships, refugees had been evacuated in cramped and insanitary conditions on board Croatian ferry boats. "We didn't expect such hospitality," said Katja, aged 26, who was travelling with her sister-in-law and her two babies. Watching a helicopter taking off from the *Minerva*, which was cruising nearby, she said: "This is great. The Yugoslav army has no chance to attack."

## Yeltsin flies back to Moscow strife

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN BERLIN AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

BORIS Yeltsin, the Russian president, flew home late on Saturday after his three-day tour of Germany with his diplomatic objectives largely unrealised, but with more economic successes than he might have expected.

He returned to Moscow to find troubles piling up for him. Russia's government and parliament are at loggerheads over who should direct radical economic reforms announced by Mr Yeltsin last week. A leading government official says the squabble threatens his newly-acquired executive powers.

Germany has not done for Mr Yeltsin what it did for President Gorbachev in 1989. The Russian leader arrived handicapped by inexperience in foreign policy and the Soviet Union's current problems. There were no euphoric crowds, but no one could accuse him of evading the big issues.

A visit that opened in Bonn with awkwardness over Erich Honecker, the former East German leader, ended with a reception in the depressing surroundings of the Soviet army base at Wünsdorf, south of Berlin. In the background hovered the shadow of the Soviet Union's foreign debts - and questions whether German bankers would recover their money.

In diplomacy, Mr Yeltsin had queried his own pitch before he even arrived by telling German television that Herr Honecker should find refuge in Chile. This conflicted with statements made by Russian officials that Herr Honecker should be returned to Germany to stand trial as Bonn has demanded. The Russian president therefore spent much of his first day insisting that he really supported Herr Honecker's return to Germany. Leading German politicians told him not to expect further economic aid unless Herr Honecker is handed over to stand trial.

Full confidence was never really established, although Mr Yeltsin emphasised that Russia guaranteed repayment not just of its own debts



Mixed fortunes: Boris Yeltsin, above, at the Soviet military headquarters in Wünsdorf on his state visit to Germany, while President Gorbachev, below, is harangued by workers at a factory in Bishkek, Kirghizia



but of other republics' debts, and in the military sphere he stressed that Russia was ready to keep to the agreed timetable for the withdrawal of Soviet troops. If German diplomats had failed to obtain what they most wanted from Mr Yeltsin - a pledge to return Herr Honecker - the Russian leader failed to obtain what he most wanted: recognition of Russia's statehood.

Addressing more than 1,400 German businessmen in Cologne, Mr Yeltsin said that the most difficult period for Russia would be between now and next autumn. "Either we shall survive or we will fail, but if we fail, then the union will fall too, and the cataclysm will go far beyond our borders."

During his visit, his insistence that money used for aid could be better spent on investment and that investment had to be made attractive, was compared favourably with Mr Gorbachev's pleas for help last year. One senior German economic official, Otto Wolff von Amerongen, said outright that when the Soviet Union fell apart, German business would have to deal with the republics, and it should start now.

Russia will now set up a commercial information bureau and a consulate in Stuttgart and Baden-Württemberg will "twine" with the industrial region of the Urals to supply food and goods to direct. The Russian base for the operation will be Mr Yeltsin's home city of

Yekaterinburg - formerly Sverdlovsk - and the goods will be flown in by Soviet army transport planes in the first arrangement of this type.

The Russian president's last port of call was the headquarters of the western group of the Soviet armed forces in what was East Germany, an hour's drive south of Berlin. The huge base, surrounded by rusting wire fences, then concrete panel walls, with watchtowers and searchlights at regular intervals, looked every inch the prison camp it was almost become for Soviet troops stationed in Germany.

Inside, Mr Yeltsin told 500 officers that Russia supported a united Soviet army and would not be the first republic to form its own armed forces. He promised that the troops

would be withdrawn by 1994, and that they would be welcomed back to Russia.

• Moscow: An American billionaire, Hungarian-born George Soros, aged 61, who is investing \$40 million (\$22.35 million) to develop "a new system" in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, warns that civil war is likely if the West does not help. He said the Soviet Union is in "a circular descent, a disintegration. It's accelerating."

To prevent such a cataclysm, Mr Soros urged the West to establish a fund of at least \$3 billion to help Soviet republics stabilise their currencies and trade among themselves as they make the harsh transition from a centrally planned economy to a market system. (AP)

## Ukraine renews union doubts

Moscow - Prospects for the Ukraine's participation in joint arrangements with the other Soviet republics faded further yesterday as Viold Fokin, the Ukrainian prime minister, denounced last week's deal on the joint servicing of the Soviet debt to the West (Bruce Clark writes).

President Gorbachev told an American interviewer that if the republic quit the Soviet family, it would mean "big trouble for the union, but even bigger trouble for the Ukraine". Last week Boris Yeltsin, the Russian president, visiting Germany, told his hosts he was pessimistic about Ukraine joining even a loose political arrangement. He is known to be unhappy about the prospect of surrendering the home ports of the Soviet navy's Black Sea fleet should there be a total break with the Ukrainians.

## Tajikistan votes

Dushanbe, Soviet Tajikistan - Presidential elections here pitted the favourite candidate, Rakhmon Nabiyev, the former Communist party boss, against Davlat Khudonazarov, a liberal film director. Preliminary results are expected today. (Reuters)

## Belgian poll blow

Brussels - Belgium's coalition government parties suffered a setback in elections, while environmentalists and an extremist anti-immigration party made significant gains, according to early projections. (Reuters)

## Mitterrand slips

Paris - President Mitterrand's popularity with French voters has fallen again. A poll in *Journal du Dimanche* said 28 per cent of the electorate approved of him, and 57 per cent disapproved. (Reuters)

## Prison break

Prague - Five guards were killed and three seriously injured in a breakout from Leopoldov prison in Slovakia. Seven inmates escaped after attacking their guards, seizing their weapons and changing into their clothes. (Reuters)

## Revenge feared

Moscow - Armenians in Nagorno-Karabakh are in fear of an all-out assault by Azerbaijanis in revenge for the alleged shooting down in the disputed enclave of an Azerbaijani helicopter in which 22 people were killed.

## Spies hunted

Bonn - More than a year after the unification of Germany, the Bonn authorities are still searching for 400 leading spies and 5,000 "small fry" involved in Cold War espionage, the magazine *Bunte* reported. (Reuters)

## Poland joins

Strasbourg - Poland will officially become the 26th member of the Council of Europe, the oldest existing European political group, here tomorrow at the 89th session of the organization's Ministers' Committee. (AFP)

## Record broken

Paris - A French Aerospace AS365, known as the "high-speed dolphin", has broken the world helicopter speed record, flying at 230mph, 14mph faster than the speed set by an American Sikorsky S67 in 1970. (AFP)

## Touch of class

Bilbao - Mario Garcia, a fashion writer, is to stage a fashion show for the blind here, when the audience will be encouraged to touch the garments as they are described in detail by a commentator. (AFP)

# Economic blunders sharpen East's grim winter

An icy season of hardship, as tough as any suffered in the communist years, has begun, reports Roger Boyes, East Europe Correspondent

SNOW has already fallen on parts of Poland, Slovakia and the Ukraine, and bitter winds have howled through the Balkans. But the cold and hungry winter creeping up on Eastern Europe is caused not so much by meteorological shifts as by financial chaos and economic mismanagement.

Romania, accustomed under Ceausescu to dreadful winters in which heating, electricity and petrol were rationed, had hoped, two years after the revolution, for something better. Thanks to partial privatisation, Western imports and freer prices, food shops have been relatively well stocked this year. Now they are beginning to empty and queues are returning.

The reason is that farmers, frightened by inflation, are keeping back much of their produce. The maize harvest was good, yet most

of it is being stored in the villages. By the middle of October, 1.2 million tonnes of potatoes had been harvested. Only 63,000 tonnes have reached state storage depots.

A timid approach to cutting retail price subsidies is playing havoc with food supplies. Poultry managers are switching off the power in battery hen houses and letting chickens freeze to death because a dead chicken brings in more profit than a hen which lays eggs after egg.

Nor does next year look any better. Romanian farmers have sown only a third of the normal winter crops because, since a land reform bill was passed, nobody knows who owns which fields. About 6.3 million property deeds have to be printed, but there are not enough printing presses.

At different levels, lack of



Hard times: Eastern Europe's people face harsh weather and shortages

confidence in the national currency and confused market reforms are affecting the whole region, which in terms of land and climate is the most fertile part of the European continent.

Albania is crippled by an almost total collapse in the distribution system and Albanians have been plundering railway carriages loaded with rare fertilisers and salt. They have also stormed food

depots. Farmers, waiting for the privatisation of land, have been letting orchards go unpruned and crops lie unharvested.

The Ukraine, bread basket of the Soviet Union, had a good harvest of about one tonne per person, more than 18 per cent higher than the West European average. But, with the present uncertainty in central authority, it remains to be

seen whether the Ukraine is ready to feed the rest of the Soviet Union. Like the Georgians and Moldavians, the Ukrainians would prefer to export food to countries paying in hard currency.

Poland's web of internal debt is so intricate that it baffles even the Harvard graduates in the finance ministry. The government still subsidises housing co-operatives, which none the

less do not have enough money to pay the heating utility companies, which as a consequence are deeply in debt to the government. As a result, half Warsaw will be underheated this winter. And coal miners, like their colleagues in Bulgaria, Romania and the Ukraine, are likely to be politically restless since governments are in no position to raise their wages again.

The main victims of the winter will be the urban poor. Bulgarian statistics show that almost half the population is on the poverty line. Figures released from several countries show how the situation is biting: 60 per cent of Bulgarians have stopped sending their children to kindergarten because of the fees, a quarter of Polish children are being sent to school without breakfast or packed lunch because of the financial squeeze. Hospitals and schools in Poland, as elsewhere in central Europe, now have their own budgets but precious little income and are frequently unable to heat low-priority wards or kindergartens or are forced to work half days.



## Middle East talks falter over venue Israelis challenge 'impertinent' US

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM AND ADAM KELLIHER IN BEIRUT

THE Bush administration faced an uphill battle over the weekend to persuade Israel and its Arab neighbours to resume negotiations in Washington next month.

Although invitations were issued on Friday to attend the proposed December 4 bilateral talks, Israel continued to waver over its response, the Palestinians made inconsistent comments and Jordan — the only country to accept the talks outright — was snubbed as a result by Syria. All parties are likely to attend after some arm-twisting, but the general level of mutual suspicion does not bode well for the future of the bilateral negotiations.

Yesterday in Israel ministers and newspaper commentators reacted furiously to what they regarded as high-handed American decision-making about the proposed date and venue. Israel has insisted that the talks reconvene in the Middle East, but when they failed to reach agreement with Arab leaders, the White House announced the venue unilaterally. Israelis were doubly furious when the invitations were sent to Palestinian delegates before Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli prime minister, had had a chance to put his case to President Bush at the White House on Friday.

Speaking last night on his return to Israel, Mr Shamir insisted that the issue of the venue had still not been settled to his satisfaction and that he had asked the White House to reconsider the matter.

Ehud Olmert, the health minister and a close adviser to Mr Shamir, said: "There is no doubt at all we are speaking of an administration that does not try or pretend to show... some amount of friendship or an effort to co-ordinate as was common with other administrations." Ron-



LEBANON  
SYRIA  
JORDAN  
ISRAEL  
EGYPT

nie Milo, the police minister, described the invitation as an "impertinent ultimatum".

In the Palestinian camp there appeared to be some confusion about the Washington conference, when Bassem Abu Sharif, an adviser to Yasser Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, was quoted as saying the Palestinian delegation would attend. However, Hanan Ashrawi, the spokeswoman for the Palestinian team, insisted that no decision had yet been taken and that details of the composition of the team could still delay a positive answer.

Jordan was rewarded for its prompt response by a snub from Damascus, which cancelled a visit by Farouk al-Sharaa. Syrian foreign minister, to Amman. Lebanon will have to wait for its masters in Damascus to decide when to reply. Syria and Lebanon seem likely to confirm that they will attend the peace talks with Israel but fighters will keep trying to kill each other in southern Lebanon.

After the largely symbolic meeting in Madrid last month, this round will deal with more substantial issues such as the disputed territories occupied by Israel, water rights and possible bilateral co-operation on a wide range of issues. Damascus had been reluctant to attend the second phase, maintaining that dis-

cussions were meaningless while Israel insisted its occupation of the Syrian territory of the Golan Heights was non-negotiable. To prevent Syria's withdrawal, James Baker, the US Secretary of State, is reported to have secured a private concession from Israel that the disputed area can be discussed. Mr Bush's offer of Washington as the venue assuages Arab opposition to Israel's pitch that the second phase be held in the Middle East. They objected to any formal recognition of Israel, often referred to as "the Zionist entity", without resolution of the status of Israel's occupied territories.

The diplomatic moves are expected to have repercussions in southern Lebanon, where Lebanese security sources are predicting an upsurge in fighting this week. Violence has escalated since fighters from radical Palestinian and Islamic groups staged a series of attacks to coincide with the Madrid conference, killing at least six Israeli soldiers and wounding 11 others.



Shouldering the burden: Amina Saleh, a Kurdish girl aged nine, playing her part in the battle for survival by carrying firewood for her family at Sayed Sadiq, near the Iraq border with Turkey. Turkey's Anatolia news agency, quoting the Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan radio, reported yesterday that Kurdish separatists from Turkey had joined with Iraqi troops in attacking Kurdish

rebels in northern Iraq. According to the radio, President Saddam Hussein of Iraq has provided militants of Turkey's separatist Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) with "all sorts of weapons so they can kill American doctors and other officials" from relief organisations in northern Iraq. The station is operated in northern Iraq by the Democratic Party of Iraqi Kurdistan headed

by Massoud Barzani. PKK rebels have been fighting the Turkish government since 1984. They found refuge in the mountainous Iraqi borderland when Iraqi troops withdrew from the region after the Kurdish rebellion in Iraq last March, according to Turkey.

Richter homecoming, page 1  
Iraqi money, page 2

## Djibouti fighting drags on

FROM REUTERS  
IN PARIS

FRANCE offered yesterday to mediate to end fighting in Djibouti but showed no sign of agreeing to the Red Sea republic government's request for military intervention against Afar rebels.

"France will do everything that seems necessary to help President Hassan to preserve his national territorial integrity and restore peace," a foreign ministry statement said. "Starting now, France is talking to all parties involved."

The Djibouti government appealed last week for French military help, invoking a 1977 agreement in which Paris promised to defend its former colony against external aggression. The government said the Afar rebellion was launched from Ethiopia.

But yesterday's statement suggested that military action by France was not likely, at least for the time being. Diplomats say France, which has 4,000 troops in Djibouti, is reluctant to be sucked into a new African military adventure and is sceptical of Djibouti's claim that it had been invaded.

## Botha takes to warpath

Johannesburg — The former South African president, P.W. Botha, has furiously accused the National Intelligence Service of being corrupt and inefficient in destroying a tape recording of a conversation he had with Nelson Mandela, leader of the African National Congress, in 1989 (Gavin Bell writes).

Mr Botha, angry at suggestions that he triggered the reform initiatives of his successor, President de Klerk, insists it would have proved that he made it clear to Mr Mandela that the ban on the ANC could not be lifted until it renounced violence. But Neil Barnard, the head of intelligence, says he destroyed the tape "in the national interest".

### Mayors sacked

Dhaka — Begum Khaleida Zia, the prime minister of Bangladesh, sacked all 460 elected mayors and dissolved opposition-dominated local government councils in a bid to consolidate her control of the administration.

### Killing stepped up

Lisbon — Pro-independence groups in East Timor say Indonesian troops are killing and detaining more people in the former Portuguese colony since 19 demonstrators were killed during a protest march earlier this month. (Reuters)

### Fighting increases

Nairobi — Rebels and forces loyal to President Ali Mahdi Muhammad stepped up artillery and rocket barrages in Mogadishu, the Somali capital, as last week's total of wounded rose to 4,000, relief workers said. (Reuters)

### Schools purged

Peking — Communist authorities in China's Muslim region of Xinjiang, in what appears to be a purge of religious teachers, have taken control of private schools accused of training separatists. (AFP)

### Spoonful of honey

Wellington — Laboratory tests have shown that a New Zealand honey can eliminate a bacteria that is one of the main causes of stomach ulcers, Peter Molan, a biochemist at Waikato University near Auckland, said.

### Chicken feed

Havana — The Cuban government is urging residents of Havana to raise chickens at home to ease food shortages. (AFP)



Konishiki: tips scales at over 570lb

## 'Dump Truck' strikes

FROM JOANNA PITMAN  
IN TOKYO

AMID feverish excitement, Hawaiian-born Konishiki, the darling of this summer's Albert Hall Sumo basho, delivered a whopping blow to the jaw of his chunky opponent, Kirishima, and imperiously sent him flying out of the ring to win the Kyushu Grand Sumo Tournament for the second time in two years.

Cushions rained down on the ring and spectators leapt up from their tatami mat seats to cheer the meatiest Sumo wrestler in history as Konishiki heaved his monumental frame down from the ring and lumbered backstage for a television interview. "I'm thrilled," was all he could mutter breathlessly into the microphone as diminutive minions rapidly worked on repairing and re-oiling his top-knot of hair and rubbing down, in teams of four, the massive sweat-drenched body that earned Konishiki the nickname "Dump Truck" when he visited London. Since then he has put on yet more weight and today tips the scales at 254 kilograms (571.5lb).

Konishiki's second tournament win yesterday will double the pressure on the Sumo authorities to promote him from his present status of Ozeki to the top-ranking Yokozuna status, a title held by national Sumo heroes over the centuries.

The problem for the Sumo Association is that the sport's closely guarded and sacred tradition has never allowed a foreigner to invade the hallowed ranks of the Yokozuna.

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## Aide begs Moi to talk to opposition

FROM SAM KILEY IN NAIROBI

PETER Oloo Aringo, chairman of Kenya's ruling Kenyan African National Union, yesterday made an unprecedented call on President Moi to open dialogue with opposition leaders recently released from police custody after a failed attempt to organise a pro-democracy rally in Nairobi.

He said: "The right of the people to criticise the government and its leaders is inherent in the democratic process. And we should be tolerant and listen to the views of the people however critical they might be."

Mr Aringo, who is in the cabinet, said it was futile for the Kenyan government to encourage talks between Nelson Mandela, head of the African National Congress, and President de Klerk of South Africa when "we are not encouraging dialogue in our own society".

Such public statements from a minister would have been political suicide a few months ago in Kenya. But there is an increasing debate on the nation's political future as senior figures try to

work out a peaceful transition to multi-party democracy. Debate in the one-party parliament has also increased with back-benchers relishing attacks on ministers. MPs have also been pressing President Moi for change in his meetings with parliamentary groups.

The president is anxious to preserve the national unity but he knows that change is inevitable. If he were to retire or enter a presidential election he would not want to do that against a background of chaos and violence. He is obsessed with maintaining stability, a source close to the president said.

Kenya is under intense international pressure to reform the one-party state which was written into the constitution in 1982. Last week Britain made public with its call for democratisation and issued a veiled threat that any slowing in the pace of change would be met with a reduction or total cut in aid to Kenya, at present about £14 million a year.

"Donors are going to be tough, and that includes Brit-

ain," said Lynda Chalker, minister for overseas development. She said hints that multi-party elections might be held next year must become reality because if President Moi fails, "we will draw our own conclusions".

Her remarks come as the seven largest debtor nations meet to discuss future aid policy at the Paris Club today and against the background of the enquiry into the murder of the popular Kenyan foreign minister, Robert Ouko. The murder enquiry has allegedly revealed high-level corruption and dark dealings by senior members of the government. Last week Nicholas Biwott, the minister of industry, who was named as the chief suspect in the murder, was sacked.

Over the past few weeks, President Moi has sent mixed signals about his attitude to change. Diplomats have been delighted with the freeing of the Kenyan press which has covered the Ouko enquiry and corruption scandals in detail. Opposition leaders' activities have been reported in detail.

## Defiant Haiti suffers embargo gladly

BY ALAN TOMLINSON  
IN PORT-AU-PRINCE  
AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THERE appeared to be little optimism yesterday of a quick solution during the second day of talks in the Colombian city of Cartagena, between a delegation from Haiti's parliament and Jean-Bertrand Aristide, the country's deposed president, on the possibility of his reinstatement.

Also discussed were the chances of raising the trade embargo imposed by the 34-nation Organisation of American States after the September 30 military coup which toppled the popular president and is causing much hardship. Father Aristide, who voiced optimism about his return when he arrived in Cartagena on Friday, said: "We are not talking about whether I shall return but how I will return." But the two sides failed to make progress.

Dejean Belizaire, the senate's president, said that lifting the embargo is a moral obligation for the international community because of the people's suffering. But in Port-au-Prince, the Haitian capital, people like Adelita Joseph, who supported an extended family of 20 people on £2 a



Poor's champion: Father Aristide meets the press during talks in Cartagena

day earned as a machinist in the rag trade before she was laid off on Thursday, said she was neither angry nor upset at the economic boycott which had forced her factory to close.

"No," she said, "we don't want the boycott lifted. The

return of President Aristide is the only hope for Haiti. Keep the boycott on." It was a strange scene inside the silent garment factory as Caribbean International, one of 80 companies that make up Haiti's crucial dollar-earning assembly indus-

try, gave its 2,000 workers the bad news. "Vive l'embargo!" they all shouted. "Vive Aristide!" Osceine Moreau, aged 33, said. "We must suffer today to win tomorrow." "Let all the factories close," added an old woman at the next work-

bench. "We don't care. Give us Aristide."

The poor who gave the former priest his landslide election victory a year ago seem willing to endure the suffering to see Father Aristide reinstated, as the OAS is insisting he must be before the embargo is lifted.

"We are used to doing without," said another redundant machinist. "We will go to our families in the mountains and live on potatoes and plantain." They may have to walk to their rural relatives. An acute oil shortage has brought transport almost to a halt, along with other basic services including electricity and water. An entire block of poor houses in the centre of the city burnt down on Wednesday night because water could not be pumped to the neighbourhood. Haiti's second city of Cap-Haitien has been without light for three weeks.

The boycott came into effect on November 5 and we have felt it in just ten days," said Raymond Lafontant, president of the Association of Haitian Industrialists. Twelve foreign companies have left Haiti as a result and he fears there will be many others unless a political solution is reached soon.

## Beauty woos bookish Beast

Charles Bremner discovers that fairy stories are not what they used to be. Girls that hang around palaces waiting for their prince have been banished

CHILDREN across America are queuing up to see *Beauty and the Beast*, a new blockbuster launched in time for Christmas by the Walt Disney Company. Another sweet and lavishly animated tale about handsome princes, castles and fairy godmothers, in the tradition of *Snow White* or perhaps the *Lady and the Tramp*.

Of course not. Such a film would tempt prosecution on at least half a dozen charges by the new culture police. This new fairy tale, which has won ecstatic reviews and is being suggested for an Oscar, might have been better titled *Disney goes Politically Correct*.

In tune with the censorious mood prevailing in America, Disney has gone out of its way to rid the 18th century fairy tale of anything that smacks of a "negative stereotype". No-one these days would want their child to see a role-model as "inappropriate" as one of those helpless females who hang around waiting for a prince to wake them from a substance-induced coma. Even *Snow White*, the least passive of the Disney heroines, tolerated a high degree of harassment from a gang of men, albeit "physically challenged" ones.

Thanks to Disney's enlightenment, Belle, the new-look Beauty, is a wilful 18-year-old with admirable self-esteem. The best-read person in a small French town, she spends her time buried in books and railing against the provincial minds of her local community.

The butt of the comedy is Gaston, a fatuous white hunk who pursues Belle with gross insensitivity. His hobbies include cruelty to animals, as witnessed by the antlers fixed to the wall of his recreation room. Belle, needless to say, spends no time frolicking with field mice, doing housework or swooning over a ball-gown.

She does fight off wolves and shows her true grit by offering to give her life to save her father. The Beast, to whom she is attracted for the scope of his fine library, is a highly challenged individual of indeterminate race, or indeed species. Free of any "lookist" tendencies, Belle forges a caring relationship with him. The lesson might have been marred by the Beast's inevitable transformation into the blandly handsome prince, but the makers have managed to redeem this by turning him into a "survivor" who grows into a caring man, equipped for a long-term mutual commitment with the female hero.

Linda Woolverton, the screenwriter, does acknowl-



Poster power: Disney tells the modern tale

edge having taken a few liberties with the 18th century story. "I don't think a throw-back character would be accepted now," she said. "I really wanted to write a strong, independent, adventurous female."

The guardians of sensitivity agree. Carroll Weinberg, a child psychiatrist, said Beauty was an ideal role model for modern girls. "The message is a valuable one for boys. There is a great need for them to get comfortable with such girls."

Bernard Levin, page 14

## Nasa puts shuttle pilots in back seat

BY NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

SPACE shuttles may soon be landing by automatic pilot because it is feared that astronauts on the longer missions might be unfit to land the craft manually.

Nasa, the US space agency, ordered testing of an automatic system for a shuttle mission in 1993 when studies indicated that after 13 days in space astronauts can suffer dizziness and other potentially hazardous conditions caused by prolonged shifts in blood pressure. At the moment Nasa's four shuttles are partly automated on their glide back to Earth, guided by microwave beams transmitted from shuttle runways.

William Lenoir, Nasa's space flight director, has ordered the test, planning to introduce computer-controlled systems that also deploy landing gear and brakes

to make a fully automated system.

Nasa, which is planning a 13-day voyage this summer, is also concerned at the effect of weightlessness on astronauts when America begins building its space station, Freedom, later in the decade. Missions then could last up to a month, and could stretch to several months when the station is fully in use.

A \$300-million (£176-million) defence satellite was scheduled to lift off from Cape Canaveral, Florida, last night. The mission, which was to have been launched last Tuesday, was postponed after a fault was suspected in the guidance system of the defence support programme. Engineers have now replaced the unit, but now believe it may have been a rogue alarm.







Is it fair to lay all blame for problem children on upbringing? Heather Kirby considers the limits of parental influence

# The perils of good parenting

As any parent knows, it is the teachers, psychologists and politicians who come up with theories about children's behaviour, and the parents who get the blame. You do not have to be a single parent of a "problem" child to feel a victim of parent bashing. Almost any parent can find his or her child-raising capabilities under question: by peers ("Who are those ghastly, noisy children?") and professionals ("How often do you read with your child?").

And never have there been more surveys about the nature of the "good" parent. According to one published this month, good mothers are strict, lax ones breed delinquents and those who are inconsistent tend to produce teenagers with violent tantrums. This, of course, contradicted earlier research that suggested intense or severe punishment leads to criminality.

But parents know that raising children is far more complicated than striking a balance between being a tyrant and being a soft touch. There are other influences that often negate what a parent says. What children hear outside the family, and who they hear it from, is often, from the point of view of a parent, horrifying. Mary Whitehouse sent the results of a monitoring exercise by a volunteer panel of the National Viewers and Listeners' Association to the prime minister this month. She said the use of the F-word had increased sixfold this year and swearing generally had more than doubled.

Even the most liberal parents of young children may find reason for anxiety in the sight of ice-cream being sold as a sex aid, the sexually explicit lyrics of pop songs or the promiscuous behaviour of a sporting hero.

Liz and John Wilson of Kemp Town, Brighton, who have five children ranging in age from four to 20, lament the constant battle to instill their own values rather than the ones children receive from elsewhere, especially television.

"There are always naked couples groping each other, in or out of a marital situation, on television and they have a very strong impact, particularly on my daughter, Annabel, who is 16 next month," Mrs Wilson says.

"The other day she said something quite outrageous: 'I can't wait to have sex.' This was just after she had been watching a programme, and it wasn't after nine o'clock."

Peer group pressure can have as much, and sometimes more, influence on children as their parents. James Lyde, an insurance broker of Withdean, Sussex, who has five children ranging in age from two to 19, thinks there is only so much parents can do



On call: Pat Lyde and daughter Donna, aged 19

*"I think she came home drunk a couple of times when she was 17, but I didn't do anything about it. She is the one who has to live with the hangover, not us"*

to influence their children. "You have them until they are 16 or 17 and then they will make their own decisions," he says. "My daughter Donna, is 19 and goes to art school, and if she wants to drink, for instance, I don't think I can stop her."

"I introduced Donna to alcohol in limited amounts a few years ago at Christmas parties, nothing excessive, and I think she came home drunk a couple of times when she was 17, but I didn't do anything about it. She is the

one who has to live with the hangover, not us, and only twice in two years is no great problem."

"I believe our daughter was over-protected through her childhood. I think my wife, Pat, was a little too strict with her, but whether that was right or not we shall have to see. I don't think I'm lax, but my attitude is that I don't expect her never to make a mistake, and as a parent you should always be there if they want to call on you."

Lord Joseph, the former education minister, addressing the annual meeting of the National Children's Home this month, said that bringing up children to accept the values of a civilised society was overwhelmingly the responsibility of parents, not of government, schools or churches. But how civilised is society? For some children, not very.

Ann Brimell and her husband Paul, of West Wickham, Kent, have three children aged 12, 15 and 19. Their daughter Samantha came home from school with a black eye one day, saying she had bumped her head on a door. "I discovered the truth when she was afraid to walk past a group of children, and it all came out," Mrs Brimell says. "One of them had been smoking a marijuana cigarette and because my daughter refused to smoke it too she was punched in the face. Children do have to stand firm on their own and it isn't easy for them."

"They say bringing up children is very rewarding, but I don't think it is. Every now and again you get little snippets which make you realise you've done something right, but that's all. One of those is the smoking incident. Apparently my daughter said: 'If I ever took that, my mum would never trust me again, so I won't.'"

"I have rules: they have to be tidy; they have to be considerate; and I insist on good table manners. My children see me as authoritarian but disciplining them is a sign you care."

Lord Joseph is urging the government to ensure that parenting skills become part of the core curriculum in schools. If this drastic measure is considered necessary, who then will take the blame for inadequate parenting and all the problems it is said to create for society? The teachers, or the politicians?



Model son: Jennifer Phillips and Chris, aged 18. "He brings girls home, but if they stay the night they have to sleep in the spare room."

## Sweet sixteen: the age of reason?

Sixteen may be the age of consent, but is it the age of responsibility? Jennifer Phillips of Ovingdean, near Brighton, thinks that depends on the child. Some, she says, mature more quickly than others. She has two sons, James, aged 20, and Christopher, aged 18.

"As long as they are sensible about sex and take precautions and know what they're getting into, I feel that when they are ready to, then it is OK. I have never given our boys the idea it is something to be rushed into willy-nilly. We try to encourage them to think on the lines of sleeping only with girls you really care for, not that it is an automatic part of a relationship."

"James, as far as I know, is still a virgin. He is shy even though we sent him to a co-ed school. I would not embarrass him by asking, because I know the answer."

"I am assuming Christopher is not a virgin from the way he has spoken, although you are never quite sure what is just bravado. I suspect he stopped being a virgin during the last year. I once found some condoms on top of his wardrobe and joked about it, that it was really not on letting our daily find them."

"He is trying to become a model and has girls falling for him all the time, but I am assuming from the way he

behaves he doesn't jump into bed with every girl he goes out with. He brings girls home, but if they stay the night they have to sleep in the spare room. I don't have any of this modern nonsense — you have to have some ground rules. Obviously if Christopher had moved away from home and was living with a regular girlfriend and they came for the weekend that would be different."

"In my experience youngsters today are not as promiscuous as the television might suggest. As for Aids, I am not sure whether they are terribly worried, and I think they should be more concerned."

Val Corbett, a director of Goldhawk, an independent television production company, decided that her daughter Polly was ready to take responsibility for one area of her life on her 16th birthday. Six months ago she began giving Polly child

benefit of £30 a month to buy her clothes.

"How is it working? Badly. She spends it in the first week. I hoped that what she would do is save it up, but ..."

"The thing about teenagers is they can't visualise what they want to buy with the things they already have at home and work out whether it will go with anything else. Polly buys things which look pretty but are totally impractical. She is into colour now, although we had the permanent mourning look for a long time. It was like having your own French peasant."

"She has a perm now, which looks very nice, although I am not so keen on six ear-rings in each ear and a stud in her nose which she had done a few months ago. I tried to put her off by giving her all sorts of dire warnings about how dangerous piercing your ears can be, but she had one done and nothing

happened so she went ahead with the rest. I am quite laid back about it now because if she gets tired of them the holes will close up again. But if she has a tattoo I would be beside myself."

Mobility can be a particular problem for parents fed up with being used as a taxi service, but anxious about the reliability and cost of public transport or the trustworthiness of older teenagers with cars.

Genevieve Breeden of Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, decided that at 16 her son, Adam, was old enough to look after his own transport. She presented him with a moped on his birthday this month. "I will no longer be charging around, carrying him in the back of my car with a set of golf clubs, and he can pop into town whenever he needs something. He will have a little element of freedom."

"My husband is worried

about Adam being on the moped because of the extra traffic on the road, but I am not because he is so sensible," Mrs Breeden says.

"I have watched him riding his older brother's bike in the garden and he knows how to handle it. Also, it only does 20mph. It is just like a motorised bicycle. He has to pass a test and wear a crash helmet, whereas when his two older brothers went on a moped that wasn't statutory."

"Obviously Adam wouldn't use the bike to come home from a late-night party. He is not that sort of boy. You have to look at the character of your child and decide how trustworthy he is. If he rode like an idiot, then I wouldn't dream of allowing him out on the road."

"I feel the more you trust your children the more they will be sensible. If you clip their wings, when they do eventually fly away, they are likely to fall over the cliff."

## SUDDEN DEATH VERSUS THE SLOW BUILD UP



Are exams really more rigorous than coursework? This Friday TES News Focus investigates.

**tes**

THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

## Babies: whom do you trust?

Last week was a bad one for those parents who entrust part of their duties to a nanny. Carol Withers, a 28-year-old nanny, was found guilty of inflicting grievous bodily harm on two babies in her care.

What checks can parents make before employing a nanny to ensure that their children are in the very best of hands while not in their care? Erica Ferrari, the mother of one of the babies Withers hurt, was personally recommended Withers, who had been a maternity nurse to a neighbour two years before. Mrs Ferrari was impressed by Withers's experience, manner, and photo album of previous well-to-do charges.

Jade Ferrari was barely three weeks old on January 25, 1990, when Mrs Ferrari returned home one morning to find her yelling: she had, Withers said, fallen out of her arms. Jade was taken to hospital and found to have a fractured skull. The Ferraris sacked Withers, and Jade recovered completely.

Withers was not a qualified nanny — she had failed her NNEB (National Nursery Examination Board) exam, but the two or three references she showed Mrs Ferrari looked fine. Withers said her certificates were "too bulky" to carry around, and would Mrs Ferrari like to be sent a copy? Mrs Ferrari said: "No, no, of course not."

You cannot be over-cautious and over-suspicious when it comes to your children's care and should not feel embarrassed or afraid to vet thoroughly a prospective nanny or mother's help. Ask awkward questions and ensure that:

• You see a nanny's training

certificate, if she is qualified. (You can check with the NNEB that she is bona fide.)

• Every job has a reference.  
• You see the reference originals.  
• You ask her if she has ever been sacked.  
• You are not being conned with false references (written by a friend).  
• All CV gaps are explained. If she was "travelling", ask to see her passport.

Nanny reference is by its very nature anodyne: employers do not want to be libellous. So track down former employers on the telephone. References are the nanny's last hurdle and your last line of defence.

A childminder's police records are checked by the social services, but even if a nanny has been convicted of GBH, there is nothing to stop her answering an advertisement in *The Lady*.

The Federation of Recruitment and Employment Services (FRES), the employment agencies' trade association, has about 50 nanny agency members who have access to an "information exchange". Christine Little, its head, calls it an informal nanny blacklist.

The Withers case highlights again the need for Robert Chantry Price, the NNEB chief, to stop merely "considering" setting up a register from which convicted nannies could be struck off, but to get on with it before a nanny is found guilty of something even more serious.

**HILAIRE GOMER**

The writer is co-author of *The Good Nanny Guide*.

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# There was no alternative

New theories about Mrs Thatcher's fall are wrong, says Peter Riddell

For want of a nail, the shoe was lost; for want of a shoe, the horse was lost; and for want of a horse, the rider was lost. And for want of four votes, Margaret Thatcher lost. Yes, or rather no. The first anniversary of Mrs Thatcher's departure is being marked by multiple reassessments of what happened in November 1990 — myth making that directly affects the Conservative party's present convulsions over Europe.

Many historians detect neat patterns in events which those of us writing at the time struggle to evaluate through a fog of uncertainty. The danger for historians is over-determinism — implying that what did happen was the only thing that could have happened — while for political journalists it is believing that almost anything could happen, and falling prey to conspiracy theories. Historians can underestimate the role of individuals, while journalists can exaggerate it.

There is no certainty about any particular outcome. It is always possible to identify events that

**RIDDELL ON MONDAY**

who had never been defeated in Parliament. But there is no real evidence of such a conspiracy.

Instead, my impression is of ministers and Tory MPs attempting to find a clear way through unforeseen and confused circumstances. Almost none expected her to fall when she did, but, after the first ballot, even close supporters believed she would be defeated on the second ballot, or only win by a humiliatedly small margin. Either way, the game was up and they had to adjust, for the sake both of themselves and their party.

But even if Mrs Thatcher had won on the first ballot, she would have been seriously damaged, rejected by more than two-fifths of her own MPs. She might have limped on, but hardly as a convincing challenger for a fourth term. Some of her remaining press supporters also forget that many

**'Some forget that policies had begun to change before she resigned; the initiative had shifted'**

Mr Major has taken forward these changes, softening the style more than changing the substance. Admittedly, the poll tax is on its way out (which it is hard to imagine would be happening if Mrs Thatcher was still in Downing Street), and there has been a further shift towards spending on public services. But, for all the protest of Mrs Thatcher and Norman Tebbit, I wonder how different Britain's negotiating position would have been ahead of Maastricht if she had stayed on, even if Mr Major has been friendlier to other EC leaders in approaching the talks. The shift of rhetoric has been larger than that of substance.

Individuals obviously matter. There are some who in Churchill's vivid description of Joseph Chamberlain "make the weather". They set the agenda of politics rather than merely respond to events. Mrs Thatcher made the weather from 1981 up to about 1988. But by the time of her fall she had ceased to do so. In that respect, all the details of what happened in November 1990 are, however engrossing to Westminster buffs, secondary to the movement of broader political trends against her — a truth, to judge by her remarks over the past few days, she still does not accept.

It was not for want of four votes that Mrs Thatcher fell, and to believe otherwise is a delusion. Timing is everything in politics and her time was up.



...and moreover  
**MATTHEW PARRIS**

There are inventions which fill an obvious need, like the electric light bulb. And there are inventions for which the application only dawns later. James Lovelock (author of *Gaia*) described his deep-frozen hamster thawing magnetron on *Desert Island Discs* recently. The magnetron also warmed his sandwiches and later became the microwave oven. It provides an example.

Another, as yet unrealised, occurred to me when I saw a recent *Times* article about photo-generation. Using photographs of successive British prime ministers a computer had generated "in-between" photos so that, for instance, one saw Harold Wilson gradually change into Alec Douglas-Home. Stage by stage a round, fleshy face hollowed into Home's familiar skull. Later the pictures in the series began to resemble Jim Callaghan. The final "in-betweening" produced strange creatures half way between Mrs Thatcher and Mr Major. As Mrs Thatcher's hair settled, then flattened, the angle at which her eyes are set began to alter and the drop between her nose and her (his?) upper lip grew.

Something like this process is used, too, in producing the thousands of images needed for moving cartoon pictures. Here, people do not change into new people but they move into new positions by incremental changes. All the computers need are "terminal" images: the worried frown with which Snow

White's face starts, and the smile in which it ends. The machine does the in-betweening. A cartoonist draws two pictures, the first and the last, the computer draws 50, and the viewers see Snow White's sorrow turn to laughter. Motion pictures of real people, like cartoons, are produced by projecting a succession of still images, each marginally altered from the last.

So I see no reason in principle why in-betweening could not be used to make a moving picture of a grin spreading across Terry Wogan's face. You would only need two still photographs of his head, both in the same position, one with a frown and one with a smile. The machine would do the rest.

The mouth movements for talking would be more complicated. Lips move in a limited number of recognisable patterns and these could be reproduced using a set of "terminal" lip positions. Mr Wogan would provide camera close-ups for the necessary photographic data; and you would need various sets for various head and camera angles, head-nods, head-inclines, etc. Once these were committed to computer memory, television producers could write a script for "him", then generate the pictures of him "saying" it. Mr Wogan could go home.

But what about the sound? Well, have you heard the "lady" who gives out the numbers on directory enquiries? A machine

Reading *The Times* used to be an act of heroic endeavour, a Spartan trudge for the eye, obliged to plough endless unbroken furrows of dense print. So declared this newspaper in introducing its famous Times New Roman in 1932, designed by Stanley Morison and carved by the Monotype Corporation. That face has dominated world typography ever since. It would, said Morison, "lose no scintilla of that legibility which rests upon fundamental optical laws, or of that readability which rests upon age-long customs of the eye".

Half a century on comes Times Millennium. Designed by the typographer Aurobind Patel, the new face is firmly based on Morison's principles of clarity and familiarity. Morison's type itself went back to William Caslon's earliest fonts for *The Daily Universal Register* in the 1780s; they in turn referred back to the Latin faces of Garamond and Aldus in the Middle Ages. Typography is one of the great trace elements of Western culture.

Whereas from Aldus to Caslon and Morison new types had to be carved, Times Millennium has used modern computer graphics,

taking typography straight from the age of hot metal to that of digital typesetting and laser printing. Our aim is to give readers a typeface that looks clear and elegant. In the place of the old roman and black are three strengths of colour — roman, demi and bold — all of which can be used for text, headlines, advertisements and City prices. Look at the wonderful teardrop described by the lower case "a" above.

The most noticeable characteristic of the face is a more flowing line to the letters and less prominence to lower-case ascenders and descenders (h, g, d, p, etc). The serifs are angular rather than horizontal, the font width is more elongated, less chunky. This has given us more words in the same printed offset. Aurobind Patel, who recently redesigned the typeface of *The Economist*, has sought

a a

Altered images: Times past (left) and Times present

columns. There should be a more open feel to the pages of the paper. While clarity is as much a matter of printing quality as typography, the typographer can at least help. The change is intended to be subtle rather than drastic. Times New Roman was a superb work of industrial art, but one designed for hot metal setting and the banging pressure of rotary letterpress. It had come to look insipid and often spidery when set by computer. Aurobind Patel, who recently redesigned the typeface of *The Economist*, has sought

to restore some of the robustness of Morison's original.

Patel has been "eating and sleeping" the project for the past year, working with David Driver, *The Times*'s head of design, and the Icelandic typographer Gunnlaugur Briem. "When Times Roman was introduced the paper was predominantly typographic," says Patel. "All headlines were set in capitals across a single column and the page conveyed a restful, dignified feel. Today's paper is a mix of headlines, pictures, captions, graphics, reflecting the more urgent nature of world news."

The jump from aesthetics to the high technology of digitised faces indicates the excitement typography still holds for industrial designers. Mr Patel's work is no less that of an artist for being the product of a team of workers

stooping over Apple Mac computers, "mouse" in hand.

The Times Millennium family has been arranged in 14 groups, including differing weights of headline and new faces for italics, advertising and tabulated statistics. This has meant the on-screen drawing of some 5,000 characters. A program called Fontstudio has enabled the designer to maintain a family likeness across groups of characters more precisely than if they had been drawn by hand (let alone carved in wood). The output of each design is not a picture of a letter but a mathematical formula for feeding into a computer typesetter. The new faces will be marketed worldwide and will, we hope, attain the same distinction as Times New Roman.

Improvements in typography are arcane, like the improvements sound technicians claim to be able to make in old music recordings. Such changes are often barely perceptible. Yet over time we do notice and appreciate them. They employ technology to push out the frontiers of what is feasible in art. To the journalist, as to the musician, they help us talk to each other. If you have noticed Times Millennium today, we hope you like it.

## Portrait of a harassed lady

A politically correct icon is born, announces  
**Bernard Levin**

A good deal of fun has lately been had, on this side of the Atlantic, at some of the doings on the other side. The antics of those Americans who would abolish (and to a significant and sinister extent have abolished) free speech, offering instead only Political Correctness, are indeed comical to look upon, though they must be very considerably less funny to the people who suffer from them. The latest turn consists of censoring the very term Political Correctness in order to conceal the actions of these thought-police: the idea, presumably, is that if there is a recognisable enemy there may be organised resistance, though in practice there has been almost none, because the cowardice of the American intelligentsia is almost beyond belief, and certainly beyond measuring.

As always, it is only the plain people, denied access to the instruments of publicity, who have seen all this nonsense for what it is: there was a wonderful example of this only the other day. A ludicrously small and unrepresentative body had made it dangerous to portray Columbus as anything but a racist-imperialist-sextist and many another ist, and the politicos of American academe did at once from the fray, though a poll revealed that 90 per cent of ordinary Americans remained of the opinion that Columbus was a hero and benefactor. (I once said, in the presence of a worldly-wise Australian, that there was nothing in human, animal, insect or plant creation more cowardly than the head of an American university, and he said that unless I took my head, so certain was he that the fainthearts of American higher education would easily carry off the prize.)



Well, the intolerance of the loud is a well-studied phenomenon, though why it should be so much more intense in the United States than anywhere else I cannot say. Yet very recently there has been a rather special item in the catalogue of American folly, pusillanimity and threat: in this manner no race or other group is maligned even chimerically, no foul suggestion that one person might be cleverer than another (let alone more beautiful), no outrageous hint that it would be more sensible for a driver to run over a skunk than to swerve and crash his car. The trouble was entirely the fault of Francisco José de Goya y Lucientes, who has been dead for 163 years. Dead, yes; but not forgotten.

It is well known that Goya painted two almost identical portraits of the Duchess of Alba: there is no difference of pose, appearance, character, age, nothing to distinguish them, save this: in one of the paintings she is fully clothed and in the other she is naked. Both pictures are powerful masterpieces, executed with ruthless ver-

similitude, and the argument over which is the finer of the two portraits will go on for ever.

Except, that is, at Penn State University in Pennsylvania. There was a reproduction of the *Naked Maja* hanging in one of the music rooms of the university; it had been there for 10 years, doing no harm and indeed presumably delighting those who enjoy beauty or genius or both. But someone disliked both; her identity has not been unveiled, much less her person, but I am unkind enough to wager that her lineaments are such that few painters of any quality would care to paint her fully clothed, and fewer still naked.

His harpy claimed that Goya's genius was an act of "sexual harassment", not against the Duchess who, after all, consented to be thus immortalised, but against women in the university. (Mr Geoffrey Wheatcroft, a good time ago, appealed for some typographer to design a symbol which would mean "I am not making this up".

and I do wish that a printing expert would heed his plea.) Enter the Liaison Committee of the Penn State University Commission for Women, with a demand that the offending lady be instantly removed, whereupon the Thing in what passes for authority in this centre of learning, at once acquiesced, saying that the hanging of such pictures should be confined to art galleries or art classes.

We haven't finished. The Commission for Women put out a statement which said: "Female faculty find it difficult to appear professional when forced to lecture to a class with a picture of a female nude on the wall behind." Never mind that they do not find anything of the sort, and never have; never mind that they have lectured in perfect equanimity with the picture on the wall for the past ten years; never mind that they were not "forced" to do anything at all; never mind that there is not the remotest connection between appearing professional and a picture on a wall; never mind the whole bundle of

wonderful, preposterous, lurid, mad lies that that sentence consists of; have these ghastly creatures never heard of laughter? More to the point, have the students of Penn State University never heard of that most potent weapon against folly?

They do have sense, which is something: the head of the Student Government Association said: "This is clearly ludicrous censorship, but the problem is that it is a dangerous precedent to set." A good start, but it still leaves the groves of laughter silent.

Come, take some advice from me, my young friends, for in my time I have strewn many a banana skin before the unsuspecting feet of many a pompous idiot. Let us see you — not just a few, but hundreds, or better still thousands — parading about the campus with copies of the banned *Maja* on your chests. Organise a competition among female students willing to pose undressed as the Duchess, and give a prize to the one who looks most like the painting. Cover the walls of the lecture room where the offending picture was hung with reproductions of the greatest nudes in the history of art, beginning with Botticelli's *Birth of Venus* and going right up to *September Morn*, but no Lucian Freud or Schiele, for heaven's sake, or you will sink the whole campaign.

You can do better still. Why not, in substantial numbers, turn up to a variety of lectures in the nude? Then again, though you must not interrupt a lecture, you can greet professors as they come out on to the platform with cries of "Get 'em off", making sure, of course, that the invitation is directed to both male and female professors, lest you are indicted on a charge of sexual harassment. But I have shown you the way: I am sure you can think of any number of similar wheezes.

Best of all, find out the identity of the woman professor who started this lunatic business, and tell me if I was right when I deduced that Goya would have taken one look at her and burnt his brushes.

### Richter by far

A RETURN to work will be the least of Ian Richter's concerns this morning, but should he wish, he has a job waiting at his former employer. He has been on the payroll of Portals Water Treatment, now part of Thames Water, since his imprisonment more than five years ago, when his salary was about £30,000.

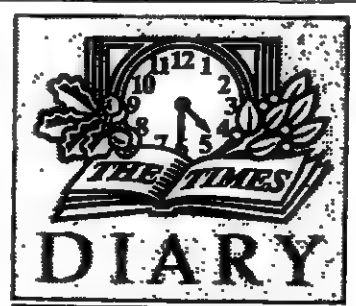
"There's definitely a job for Ian here," says Tim Curran from Thames Water. "He was a very strong part of a very strong team. He's a man of huge personal talents." When he was arrested, Richter was overseeing the installation of a £600 million water purifying system in Baghdad as an engineer for a Portals subsidiary, but no one is expecting him to return to Baghdad.

Richter will have one professional card up his sleeve to impress Thames. While in prison, he completed a one-year post-graduate course in economics, finance and accountancy run by the Institute of Chartered Accountants, with textbooks supplied by the British embassy. Richter was only impeded from taking the exam by his Iraqi captors when the Gulf war had broken out.

Whatever the future holds for Richter, Thames will not be stinging in its celebrations if he returns. It promises to toast him with a glass of its finest bottled water.

### Outboxed

THE Germans, it seems, know more about Britain's effort during the last war than we do. Some 15,000 pillboxes and other second world war installations in Britain are to be mapped here for the first time. The information, however, comes not from British sources, but from maps produced by Ger-



man intelligence during the war. The pillboxes were built after Dunkirk in anticipation of a German invasion. Now the Fortress Study Group, with the backing of the Royal Commission on Historic Monuments, is planning the first detailed map of their whereabouts. Brigadier Jock Hamilton-Baillie, chairman of the fortress group, says: "We're going to start with pillboxes, but we hope to map gun batteries as well. It will be difficult to find them all, but the German intelligence maps are accurate." To those who doubt the value of preservation the brigadier says: "It was a tremendous effort to build them. They should be saved."

### Saving energy

WHEN John Collins, chairman of Shell, unveiled the first report of the government's advisory committee on business and the environment he demanded increased emphasis on domestic house insulation.

The report from Collins, who heads the committee, recommends "specific programmes to encourage householders to invest in insulation and draught proofing". Odd then to learn several days later that Shell was ending its own interest in domestic cavity wall insulation.

In a memo to staff John Hancock, managing director of

Thermocomfort, a subsidiary of Shell, wrote: "The domestic cavity wall insulation market has been bedevilled by several adverse factors. There are no signs that their difficult market position will improve in the foreseeable future." That says little for the effectiveness of the committee's first report.

### Pursued by a bear

THE REAL star of *The Cabinet Minister*, which opened at the Albany Theatre last week, is an 8ft stuffed grizzly. The prop is easily the most distinguished member of the cast, having made his acting debut ("Judging by the age of his teeth," say his owners) when the rest of the actors were in nappies. "He's probably getting better paid than us," says Derek Nimmo, who plays Sir Julian Twombly in



the play. The bear's starring role occurs in the second scene when he adorns the set in a Scottish castle. "He normally appears in Scottish castles. We first met in 20 years ago when I was in the James Bond film *Casino Royale*."

Over the years, Nimmo says, their relationship has deepened. "And, as in this play I actually manoeuvre him round the stage, I feel we're getting closer."

### Breaking ranks

THOSE who find the sight of Mrs Thatcher and Edward Heath denouncing the policies of their successors distasteful will be relieved to know that such behaviour is almost without precedent in the Conservative party.

Most former Tory prime ministers have preserved an almost Trappist silence after relinquishing office. Stanley Baldwin stated when he handed over to Neville Chamberlain in 1937: "Once I leave, I leave. I am not going to speak to the man on the bridge and I am not going to spit on the deck." Even Churchill, whose views on his successors, Anthony Eden, were not laudatory, expressed them only in private.

Transgressions of this rule have been infrequent. Harold Macmillan caused a fission when, in 1964, he spoke out in the Lords against the government's policy towards the miners. However, Macmillan's conduct is excused by the official Conservative party historian, Lord Blake, on the grounds that Macmillan's intervention was "mischievous" and "not very serious". The same could hardly be said of those of his successors.

\*There may be a hidden reason for John Major's reluctance to provoke conflict with our EC partners at Maastricht. The last time the British attended an engagement in the Dutch town was in May 1940, when the RAF dispatched the light bombers of No 12 Squadron to attack bridges over the River Maas to impede the German advance. The raid was one of the few in the second world war in which the RAF lost its entire attacking force. Two of its airmen involved were posthumously awarded the VC: small comfort to Mr Major, who is honour from his sortie.





# MRS THATCHER'S OUTBURST

## NO CAUSE FOR PANIC

# DEALING FOR FREEDOM

## Trident as UK defence cornerstone

## English as Europe's official language

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN BURSCOUGH,  
Kildare, The Rookery,  
Scawby, Brigg,  
South Humberside.  
November 21.





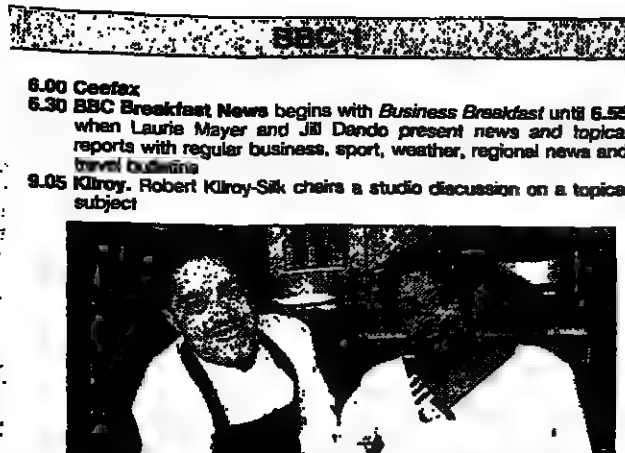












Spicy hors-d'oeuvres: Chris Barber, Rosemary Grant (5.50pm)

**6.00 Cee-fax:** BBC Breakfast News begins with *Business Breakfast* until 6.55 when Laurie Magar and Jill Dando present news and topical reports with regular business, sport, weather, regional news and travel columns.

**9.05 Kilroy:** Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject.

**10.00 News, regional news and weather 10.05 Playdays:** For the very young (10.25) *Playdays* returns with a new series of sketches and songs.

**10.35 Antiques Roadshow:** Hugh Scully clips into the archives and unearths some obscure artefacts including an amputation set, a petrified bird's nest, a portable shower and a collection of saucy postcards.

**11.00 News, regional news and weather 11.05 No Kidding:** Family quiz game show hosted by Mike Smith with Kate Corfield. 11.30 *People Today* presented by Brian Stoppard, Adrian Mills and Mairi Macleod. Includes news and weather at 11.00.

**12.20 Pebble Mill:** Judi Squires introduces music and chat from the foyer.

**12.55 Regional news and weather**

**1.00 One O'Clock News and weather**

**1.30 Neighbours:** (Cee-fax) (1.50) *Going for Gold:* Henry Kelly with another round of the quiz in which contestants from 14 European countries answer general knowledge questions.

**2.15 Smoother:** David Vine introduces sixth round action in the UK professional championship from the Guild Hall, Preston.

**3.50 Penny Pansy:** Animated series 4.00 *Harman Scarpa:* Three picture book stories told by Brian Glover, Miriam Margulies and Willie Rushton (4.10) *Quack Draw McGraw:* Cartoon 4.30 *Walt on Earth:* Episode five of the 12-part science fiction comedy thriller starring Garth Neper Jones, Tom Brodie and Jessica Simpson (4.35) *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles:* Cartoon adventure.

**6.00 Newsweek 6.05 Blue Peter:** Enduring children's magazine presented by Yvette Fielding, John Leslie and Diane-Louise Jordan. (Cee-fax) (6)

**6.35 Neighbours (1):** (Cee-fax) (1) Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster.

**6.50 Six O'Clock News:** With Peter Sissons and Anna Ford. Weather.

**6.50 Regional News:** Northern Ireland: Neighbours.

**7.00 Wogan:** Tonight's guests include Isabelle Rosselin, daughter of Ingrid Bergman, and Roberto Rossellini, film director. Garry Marshall, whose credits include *Pretty Woman*, and singer Bonnie Raitt.

**7.30 Watchdog:** The consumer affairs magazine looks at how people selling their cars through newspapers and magazines are pestered by agencies trying to persuade them to sell via a computer database.

**8.00 Telly Addicts:** The Marks family from Southgate, north London, meet the Reynolds family of Easleigh for a place in the final of the television quiz. The questionmaster is the patronising Noel Edmonds.

**8.30 Lifesense:** Partners for Life: How human success depends on partnerships forged with animals, and how the alliance between man and beast has moved over the past 10,000 years from equality to exploitation. (Cee-fax) (8)

**9.00 Nine O'Clock News:** With Michael Buerk. (Cee-fax) Regional news and weather.

**9.30 Panorama:** Class Wars. As new laws are planned by the government to change the way teachers are trained, a report on the war for the hearts and minds of Britain's schoolchildren.

**10.10 Cop Rock:** American musical drama series set in the Los Angeles police department, created by Steven Bochco of *Hill Street Blues* fame (10.15) *The Sinner:* A new series of crime stories.

**10.55 Smoother:** David Vine introduces highlights of two sixth round matches in the UK professional championship from the Guild Hall, Preston. The commentators are Ted Lowe, Jack Kameh, Clive Everton, John Spencer, Eddie Charlton, Ray Edmonds and John Virgo.

**11.35 Skillsup:** Jobs and training advice series (1)

**12.00am Weather**

**6.00 Breakfast News 6.15 Westminster:** After *Adrian Cotes*, the last of three programmes in which Paul Hainey cruises in the *Solent* in the wake of K. Adair Cotes (1)

**6.30 Daytime:** 2. Educational programmes.

**7.00 News and weather:** followed by *Storytime* (1) 2.15 *Regional Westminster reports* (1) Northern Ireland: A Taste of Ireland. (1) 3.00 *West in Westminster* 3.45 *Newsweek* 4.00 *Sturford-Clark* looks at Rodin's masterpiece *The Kiss* in relation to the erotic and pornographic (1)

**3.00 News and weather:** followed by *Songs of Praise* from *Singapore* (1) (Cee-fax) (1) 3.40 *Nightline:* The occupational hazards of night-time street cleaner *Horse Stockport* (1) 3.50 *News, regional news and weather*

**4.00 Smoother:** The UK professional championship.

**5.25 One in Four:** Magazine series on disabled matters. Includes a report from Australia on the 'International Year of the Person with Disability'.

**5.55 Secret Nature:** The fourth of a six-part series of films on man's relationship with wildlife. This week Andrew Cooper explores the world of a quarry (1) (Cee-fax)

**6.25 DEF 2:** Begins with *Princess of Bel-Air*. Adventures of a sophisticated inner city Pittsburgh youth who is related to a relations in wealthy California. 6.50 *Dance Energy:* Normski with the latest from the club scene (1)

**7.20 Rally Report:** News of the second day's action in the Lombard RAC rally.

**7.25 Open Sesame:** Covering the *Casualty*.

**8.00 CHOICE:** Sheila Awoonor-Renner, whose 17-year son was killed in a road accident, makes a plea for a more open attitude towards grief and bereavement. She describes how she went to the hospital to see her son's body and was ushered away before she had time to react. "I learned," she says, "that emotion was not allowed." She suggests that the British have something to learn from other cultures, which are not frightened of expressing their feelings. Her thoughts are echoed by a mother whose son died in the Marchioness riverboat tragedy. She was not even able to see the boy and identify him and was told that her interest in him was morbid. Alternatively ways of dealing with grief are related to a Hindu woman and a Jamaican, both of whom stayed close to their dead relatives. Sheila Awoonor-Renner argues that while "private grief" is a respectable concept, it is also a very lonely one. (Cee-fax)

**7.55 Prisoners of Conscience:** Former hostage Brian Keenan with the story of an innocent in jail.



Paying a high price for tourists: British holidaymakers (8.00pm)

**8.00 Nature: What You Want's Here:**

**CHOICE:** In its usual crisp style, *Nature* considers the environmental cost of tourism. Thanks to rising incomes and speedy transport we are travelling the globe as never before. By the end of the century tourism will be the world's biggest industry and for developing countries in particular it could be an economic lifeline. The dark side is pollution, overcrowding and the destruction of the very amenities we flock to enjoy. Skiers are wearing down the Alps, Mediterranean beaches are covered with litter and, closer to home, 25 million is being spent to repair damage inflicted by walkers on the Pennine Way. Jenni Mills's report looks at "green" tourism and suggests that the most popular tourist spots will have to be rationed or even closed. As Lord Montagu of Beauchamp puts it, the countryside has a limited capacity and, like the last night of the Proms, may in future have to be booked in advance. (Cee-fax)

**8.30 Film: Attack on Fear (1984):** starring Paul Michael Gleason and Linda Kelsey. Effective TV movie, based on fact, about a husband and wife journalist team who used their weekly newspaper to publish the truth about an American drug rehabilitation foundation. Directed by Mel Damski. (Cee-fax)

**10.00 NTV:** Comedy series parodying satellite television (1)

**11.15 The Late Late Show:** Includes an interview with Polish poet Czeslaw Milosz (1)

**11.55 Rally Report:** Further coverage of the second day of the Lombard RAC rally.

**12.00am Prisoners of Conscience:** presented by Brian Keenan (1)

**12.15 Weather**

**6.00 TV-am**

**6.25 Jeopardy!** Steve Jones provides the answers, the contestants try and work out the questions 8.55 *Thames News* and weather.

**10.00 The Time ... The Place ...** presented by Mike Scott.

**10.40 This Morning:** Family magazine.

**12.10 Rosie and Jim:** Puppet series for children.

**12.30 Home with John Suchet:** (Cee-fax) Weather 1.10 *Thames News* and weather.

**1.20 Home and Away:** Australian family drama series. (Oracle) 1.50 *A Country Practice:* Medical drama series.

**2.20 Thames Help:** Jackie Spradley previews her week's series on career options for young people 2.50 *A Place in the Sun:* Holiday homes in the Canary Islands.

**3.15 ITN News headlines 3.20 Thames News headlines 3.25 Families:** Soap linking the north of England with Australia (1)

**3.50 The Scooby Show:** London's Toy Museum (1) 4.15 *They Took Adventure:* Cartoon series created by Steven Spielberg 4.40 *Cartoon starring Porcupine Pig* (1) 4.50 *How 2:* Children's questions answered in an entertaining way.

**5.10 Blockbusters:** General knowledge quiz game for teenagers.

**5.40 News with Carol Barnes:** (Oracle) Weather.

**5.55 Thames Help:** Jackie Spradley with the first of her week's series on career options for young people.

**6.00 Home and Away (1):** (Oracle)

**6.20 Thames News:** (Oracle) Weather.

**7.00 The Krypton Factor:** The grand final of the brains and brawn competition, with Tristan Robbin, Paul Evans, Laurence Parsons and Tony Hetherington facing six rigorous rounds of mind and body tests. Presented by Gordon Burns with guests Tony Robinson and Michelle Collins. (Oracle) (1)

**7.30 Conversation Street:** (Oracle)

**8.00 Strike & Lucky:** Quiz game show hosted by Michael Barrymore (1)

**8.30 World in Action:** The Rapeeased. A report on how mortgage lenders are ignoring their own guidelines and making families needlessly homeless. Includes an interview with Sir George Young, the housing minister, who criticises the behaviour of some lenders, particularly those providing second mortgages.

**9.00 Rumpole of the Bailey:** Rumpole and his colleagues, John Mortimer's inebriated advocate defends a doctor accused by a patient of making improper advances. Rumpole's investigations necessitate reading girls' magazines and a visit to a dubious escort agency. Starring Leo McKern. (Oracle) (1)

**10.00 News at Ten:** with Alastair Stewart and Julia Somerville. (Oracle) Weather 10.30 *Thames News* and weather.



No joking matter: Ruby Wax gets serious about AIDS (10.40pm)

**10.40 AIDS Update '91:**

**CHOICE:** In its latest attempt to spread the message about AIDS, Thames Television has recruited the voluble American comedienne, Ruby Wax, and opens the first of five nightly reports with shots of topless women on a Mediterranean beach. Ruby's flamboyant introduction ("I'm not taking this up, it's on the 'house'") is followed by a raft of grim statistics, a couple of case histories and stark warnings from antibody-testing experts. Tonight's theme is the spread of AIDS among heterosexuals, as illustrated by a young man's casual affair on holiday (hence the topless bathers) and a woman who caught HIV from a boyfriend during an 18-month relationship. Particularly aimed at young people, the series also tackles sex education in schools, needle-sharing in prison and the rapid spread of AIDS in New York. (Oracle)

**10.50 In the Heat of the Night:** A feature-length episode of the police drama series set in the American deep south.

**12.30am Sportsworld Extra:** introduced by Tony Francis.

**1.30 Film: The Senator Was Indecent (1947):** starring William Powell and Ella Raines. A bird-brained senator decides to run for the presidency against his party's wishes. A biting satire with lively dialogue. Directed by George S. Kaufman.

**3.00 American College Football:** Maryland v Georgia Tech.

**4.00 Shogun:** Drama series. The second of two music specials. Among those appearing are Sting and Herbie Hancock (1)

**5.30 10th Morning News:** with Phil Romen. Ends at 6.00.

**6.00 The Channel 4 Daily 9.25 Schools:**

**12.00 Right to Reply:** presented by Rory McGrath. Viewers complain about the lack of science programmes on television; and Mohammed Haque, who appeared in *The Black Bag: I Just Want to Learn*, explains how he felt misrepresented. The programme's producer, Paul San responds (1). (Teletext) (1)

**12.30 Business Daily:** Businessman's with the latest news from the world's money markets.

**1.00 Sesame Street:** Award-winning early learning series.

**2.00 Film: Carrington VC (1954):** b/w starring David Niven and Margaret Leighton. Well-crafted courtroom drama about an army major who defends himself when court-martialled for embezzling mess funds even though he informed his CO that he was going to take money from the safe. Directed by Anthony Asquith.

**4.00 Nature Perfect:** The second programme on the significance of the garden throughout history, considers the legacy of the Roman Empire on the gardens of Sutton (1). (Teletext) (1)

**4.30 Fitnes-to-One:** Fast-moving general knowledge quiz (1)

**5.00 The Late Late Show:** Music and entertainment from Dublin, presented by Gay Byrne.

**6.00 The Wonder Years:** The final episode of the award-winning comedy series about growing up in late 1960s America. Starring Fred Savage (1)

**6.30 Tonight With Jonathan Ross:** The guests are former White House aide Oliver North, who talks about his new book *Under Fire: An American Story*, and *Twins* star's Kimmy Robertson.

**7.00 Channel 4 News:** with Jon Snow and Zeinab Badawi. (Teletext) Weather.

**7.50 Comment**

**8.00 Brookside:** Suburban Merseyside soap. (Teletext) (1)

**8.30 Desmond's:** Comedy series set in a Peckham barber's shop. Starring Norman Beaton, Carmen Munroe and Rem John Holder. (Teletext) (1)



Warding off the media's eye view of Hornton hospital (8.00pm)

**8.00 Cutting Edges: Casualties:**

**CHOICE:** The use of the plural is presumably to separate this documentary from the BBC's *Casualty*, though followers of the fictional version will note similarities of content and style. As *Casualty*, Diane Tennant's film is a series of vignettes about hospital casualty and emergency department and presents a series of overlapping stories as staff do their best to cope with a varied case-load. Like *Casualty*, too, Tennant presents a media's eye view, helped by hand-held camerawork and breaking editing. Fact and fiction diverge in two main respects. Unlike the fictional *Holly*, Hornton hospital serves one of the poorest areas of inner-city London. This is reflected in its patients, who include a striking number of psychiatric cases. And while *Casualty* no longer deals with National Health Service politics, Hornton brings us back to the real world of over-worked staff and shrinking budgets. (Teletext)

**10.00 Play Dead:** A one-off play from the National Film and Television School. The friendship between two young men that is strained when they become involved with a right-wing gangster. Written by Danny Cannon and starring Lee Whitlock, David Doyle and David Duffy.

**11.00 4-Thought: Big Decision:** The last of four programmes trying out new formats for analysing current issues. Tonight's fifth edition is in the form of a game show and is hosted by Henry Kelly who cut his teeth on current affairs while working for the *Irish Times* and on Radio 4's *The World Tonight* before finding a wider audience as a game show and quiz host. A league of seven "contestants" are asked to decide whether the British government should sign the treaty on European union only to be on offer at the Maastricht summit next month. They cross-examine a team of experts before reaching their decision through discussion among themselves.

**12.00 Tonight With Jonathan Ross:** A repeat of the programme shown at 6.30.

**12.30am Because We Must:** The television version of dancer/choreographer Michael Clark's 1987 Christmas stage show. Ends at 1.30.

**TV VARIATIONS**

**ANGLIA:** As London except: 2.30 *Cartoon* for 1.50-2.00. *Anglia News* 10.50-11.00. *Anglia News* 11.00-11.30. *Anglia News* 11.30-12.00. *Pop Profile*.

**BORDER:** As London except: 1.50-3.15 *Film: The Master Plan* 5.10-6.40 *Home and Away* 6.50-7.00 *News* 7.00-7.30 *The High Road* 10.50 *Film: Pressure Point* 12.45 *News* 12.45-1.15 *News* 1.15-1.45 *News* 1.45-2.15 *News* 2.15-2.45 *News* 2.45-3.15 *News* 3.15-3.45 *News* 3.45-4.15 *News* 4.15-4.45 *News* 4.45-5.15 *News* 5.15-5.45 *News* 5.45-6.15 *News* 6.15-6.45 *News* 6.45-7.15 *News* 7.15-7.45 *News* 7.45-8.15 *News* 8.15-8.45 *News* 8.45-9.15 *News* 9.15-9.45 *News* 9.45-10.15 *News* 10.15-10.45 *News* 10.45-11.15 *News* 11.15-11.45 *News* 11.45-12.15 *News* 12.15-12.45 *News* 12.45-1.15 *News* 1.15-1.45 *News* 1.45-2.15 *News* 2.15-2.45 *News* 2.45-3.15 *News* 3.15-3.45 *News* 3.45-4.15 *News* 4.15-4.45 *News* 4.45-5.15 *News* 5.15-5.45 *News* 5.45-6.15 *News* 6.15-6.45 *News* 6.45-7.15 *News* 7.15-7.45 *News* 7.45-8.15 *News* 8.15-8.45 *News* 8.45-9.15 *News* 9.15-9.45 *News* 9.45-10.15 *News* 10.15-10.45 *News* 10.45-11.15 *News* 11.15-11.45 *News* 11.45-12.15 *News* 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Forward to the Millennium: type redrawn to a classical pattern for the age of advancing technology

# The Times takes on a new look

**FORGIVE** us if we look a little different this morning. Like an elegantly well-dressed lady under the admiring gaze of a gentleman, we would rather you appreciated the overall effect than dwell on the detail by which it is achieved. You may not even notice the change; your unconscious eye, we trust, will be glad of it.

The typeface in which this newspaper is set and printed has been redesigned. Serifs have been sharpened, ascenders and descenders thickened and thinned, white space expanded and compressed. Times New Roman has become Times Millennium. Typographical design, the matter of drawing letters which the unthinking might imagine any child could achieve, is an arcane art that does not, and perhaps should not, engage the mind of the average reader.

The eye however knows better, given its task of translating line after line of ink blot into a narrative for the brain to digest, comprehend, enjoy, agree with or fulminate over. Anything that eases and pleases that phys-

*A quiet revolution today brings a more graceful appearance to the pages of The Times, writes*

Alan Hamilton

cal process of translation is to be welcomed.

Changing a typeface, in which some 100,000 words are written daily in *The Times* alone, is not a light undertaking, and has been achieved at a cost of £200,000. The justifications are both aesthetic and technical; the way *The Times* is printed today is light years away from the way it was done even a decade ago.

We mention the matter only because in our 206 years' existence we have, for our sins, been the national newspaper industry's progenitor of almost every major advance in printing technology. Not all have been happy, or even successful, but it has been our fate to be in the front line of virtually every battle for progress.

John Walter founded *The Daily Universal Register* in 1785 as an advertising sheet to publicise a new typesetting process he had happened upon. Logography was a clever system of setting several letters at once in the days when all type was set laboriously by hand, letter by letter. Unfortunately for Mr Walter, 1785 was also the date of the first recorded trade union bargaining agreement between the London newspapers and their printers, and any compositor on piecework was not going to look favourably on a device circumventing his labour.

Logography, which was probably not a very good idea in the first place, died a rapid death. Within three years Mr Walter had renamed his sheet *The Times*.

So successful did it become, with such innovations as shifting an advertisement off the front page to accommodate the first news of the death of Nelson a mere two weeks after the event, that the hand-operated printing press, more or less identical to those of Gutenberg and Caxton, could not keep pace. Smuggling a high-technology German press into his works piece by piece, under the noses of his printers, Mr Walter was able to announce to his waiting hands one memorable night in 1814: "Gentlemen, *The Times* is al-

ready printed — by steam."

But the greatest change to the look of the paper was achieved in 1932 under the direction of the distinguished typographer Stanley Morison. In designing a typeface suitable for the newspaper's impeccable presswork and high-quality newsprint, he wrote that it had to be "worthy of *The Times* — masculine, English, direct, simple, not more novel than it behoved to be novel... and absolutely free from faddishness and frivolity."

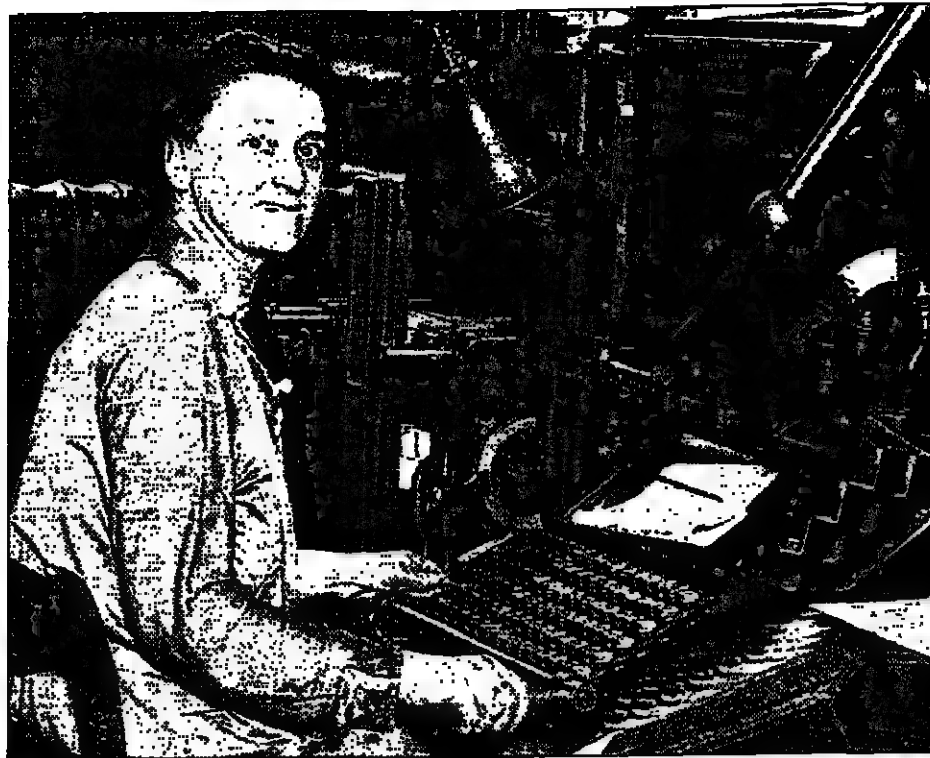
Reading *The Times* in its old Gothic garb, it was conceded, had become an act of heroic endeavour, a Spartan struggle for the eye, often not in its first flush of youth, through endless unbroken furrows of dense and indistinct print. Morison designed Times New Roman, a face of classic elegance that has become the most widely used type in the world. Even today there is no laser printer on the market which does not offer it. It served us well for nearly half a century, surviving even the earth-shattering appearance of news on the front page in 1966.

On the day after Times New Roman was introduced, the letters column was brimming with praise. "The headings are clear and bold, so that one may scan the paper for the important news in the morning, and the small type particularly is clear and inviting for closer reading in the evening," enthused the Cambridge University printer.

Ten years ago, it began to fail us. Circulation was rising, and the consequent long runs on the printing presses caused the finer details of the type to break up; it needed some body-building. So we had another distinguished man of letters, Walter Tracy, produce for us Times Europa, a little less delicate, less classical, and rather beefier, better able to withstand long hours in the printing mangle.

All that and more went out of the window when *The Times* found itself yet again in the van of technological advance, culminating in a lock, stock and barrel move away from Fleet Street, from hot metal composition, and into the age of electronics. The computer typesetting equipment supplied had, naturally, Times Roman in its armoury, but being computer-drawn it was a pale and comparatively inelegant shadow of Morison's original.

A further technological advance allows us to redraw our letters once again to a more classical pattern. Offset



1920s typesetting: a rare woman Intertype operator during the General Strike



1990s typesetting: computers produce a complete article on bromide paper

## This is last week's headline

## This is the new headline

printing has replaced the old-fashioned letterpress, giving a far sharper and cleaner image on the paper.

Aurobind Patel, composing and design manager of News International who has been largely responsible for

the change, says that his aim has been to recreate for modern technology the robust feel of Morison's original, a type designed for the hot metal composition of its day.

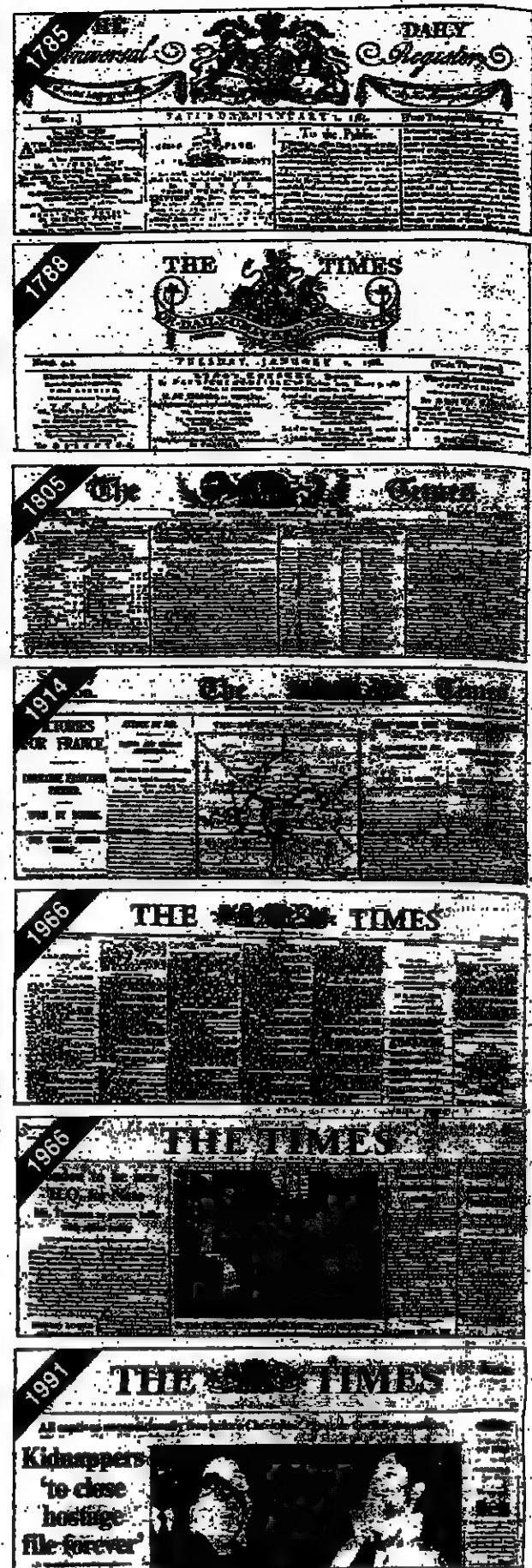
But do not count the stitches in the lady's hem, nor the

pearls at her neck. Appreciate, if you will, the whole. We trust the eye approves.

□ This article is set in Times Millennium Demi and Demi Italic, 8 on 8.7pt.

Simon Jenkins, page 14

## Changing faces over 206 years



Page progression: how the front page has altered over the years, including 1914 a rare special first world war edition with news and (May 2, 1966) the most recent revolution, when the advertisement front page gave way to daily news

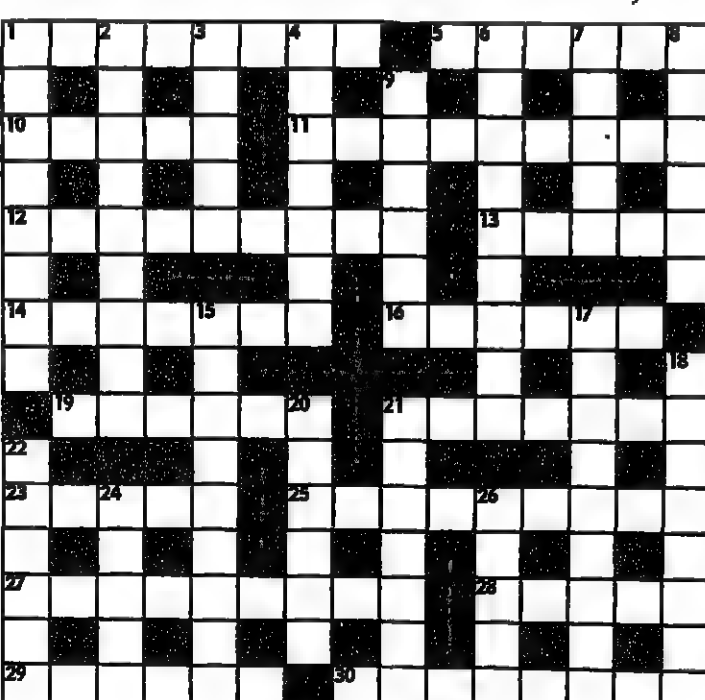


Patel: recreating robust original for hi-tech



Morison: designed type face of classic elegance

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 18,772



- ACROSS**
- Draw article without decoration as a guide (8).
  - Gives the letters of magic formulae (6).
  - Call up the first lady to receive approval (5).
  - Set a limit on the drink with good reason (9).
  - A name made by writing (9).
  - Popular with an Oriental? Ridiculous (5).
  - Possibly diverge when upset (7).
  - Sound footwork, that's plain (6).
  - The dealer's a little schemer — certain to cheat (6).
  - Draw for use of spare court (7).
  - Fall off, causing a spill (5).
  - Warm macho eccentric to get cleaner (9).
- DOWN**
- Rich man is just the same as an underworld boss at grabbing credit (4).
  - A thousand warriors backed this Greek character (5).
  - Salad food for an artist? (6).
  - Shown on TV as guarded (8).
  - Beastly manoeuvring becomes habit over a period (8).
  - One is glad maybe to be nearby (9).
  - Doctor upset, say, over a long letter (5).
  - Athlete's opening 11 on the beach (7).
  - Careful and quiet — driven to take a break (9).
  - The sovereign owns a place in the mountains (5).
  - Cultivated Europeans (6).
  - Emphasize need for a second lock (6).
  - Substituted for another one caught — captured by divers (9).
  - "Tramping", a new game (9).
  - Colours, and that's normal (8).
  - A log — note amount of wood in it (6).
  - Sort of band capable of adapting to change (7).
  - Lays up gold, which causes amazement (6).
  - An American writing poetry for money (5).
  - Offal can be used to make a stew (5).

**PARKER DUOFOLD**

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 18,771 will appear next Saturday. The 5 winners will receive a Duofold fountain pen supplied by Parker

## WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions are correct?

By Philip Howard

### SCOTTICISMS

By Philip Howard

### STOCKIES

a. A short stocking

b. A plaster cast

c. Heavily built, robust

### STOVIES

a. A tall hat

b. Potato stew

c. Barrel staves

### STUSHIE

a. An apron

b. A surprise

c. Wet through, drenched

Answers on page 18

### AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0800 401 followed by the appropriate code

London & SE

C London (within N & S Crcs) 731

M-ways/roads M4-M1 732

M-ways/roads M1-Dartford 733

M-ways/roads Dartford T M23 734

M-ways/roads M23-M4 735

M25 London Orbital only 736

National

National motorways 737

West Country 738

Wales 739

Midlands 740

East Anglia 741

North-west England 742

North-east England 743

Scotland 744

Northern Ireland 745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times

at all other times

at all other times

at all other times

at all other times

at all other times

at all other times

at all other times

at all other times

## WEATHER

Wales, Northern Ireland, Western England and much of Scotland will start cloudy with outbreaks of rain, followed by heavy showers during the afternoon. Eastern Scotland and the rest of England should start dry, but rain will spread from the west by the afternoon with clearer weather by evening. It will be windy everywhere with gales in some northern and western areas. Outlook: rain spreading to all parts from the southwest.

### ASBROAD

MIDDAY: 1st under; 2nd; 3rd; 4th; 5th; 6th; 7th; 8th; 9th; 10th; 11th; 12th; 13th; 14th; 15th; 16th; 17th; 18th; 19th; 20th; 21st; 22nd; 23rd; 24th; 25th; 26th; 27th; 28th; 29th; 30th; 31st

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# THE TIMES BUSINESS

MONDAY NOVEMBER 25 1991

BUSINESS EDITOR JOHN BELL

BUSINESS NEWS 21-25  
LAW REPORT 26  
DEGREE RESULTS 26  
EDUCATION 27, 29  
SPORT 30-36

5  
11

## Labour to quiz Lilley on Argyll decision

BY OUR CITY STAFF

A POLITICAL row has blown up over the trade department's decision to hand over part of its interim report into the Guinness affair to Argyll Group, the supermarket chain.

Marjorie Mowlam, Labour spokeswoman on the City, will this week question Peter Lilley, the trade secretary, on the decision to allow Argyll's solicitors to see the report to enable them to conclude a £100 million out-of-court settlement with Guinness.

This is the second time in a month that a DTI report into a matter currently the subject of a criminal trial has sparked a controversy. Copies of the report into the Blue Arrow affair have been sent to selected parties mentioned in it.

A DTI spokeswoman yesterday refused to comment on the as yet unpublished Guinness report, but she confirmed that copies were made available to the Argyll camp at the solicitors' request.

"When the subject of the report is also the subject of a criminal trial, it isn't published until the conclusion of the process," she said. "However, there are provisions under the Companies Act to make available copies of a report before publication to people affected by it."

"Our practice has been to let such people have access before publication subject to their giving undertakings to preserve confidentiality."

The report was requested by Argyll's solicitors, and the DTI had taken the decision to hand it over after consulting the judge and defendants in the ongoing Guinness trial.

## German agency attacked

BY OUR ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

GERMANY'S Treuhand privatisation agency is under attack for allegedly losing DM500 million (£175 million) on the DM1 billion sale of the former East Germany's largest oil refinery to a consortium led by Veba, the west German group.

A report in *Der Tagespiegel*, the German newspaper, said that the sale agreement in May left the Treuhand to finance investment in the refinery group.

A spokesman for the Treuhand said the agency had launched an investigation into the deal.

Comment, page 23

## Continental Airlines hope

CONTINENTAL Airlines Holdings, the American airline that went into chapter 11 bankruptcy last December, hopes to extract itself by giving unsecured creditors and its 39,000 employees a stake in a new airline company it plans to set up. The board said Northwest Airlines was still interested in Continental but could not promise a deal soon. Continental has until Thursday to file a reorganisation plan in Delaware's bankruptcy court without facing competing proposals.

## CHANGE ON WEEK

### THE POUND

US dollar 1.7980 (+0.0293)  
German mark 2.8525 (-0.0429)  
Exchange index 90.8 (-0.4)

Bank of England official close (4pm)

### STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share 1866.8 (-81.8)  
FT-SE 100 2446.3 (-100.3)  
New York Dow Jones 2902.73 (-40.47)  
Tokyo Nikkei Avg 23117.39 (-981.79)

\*\*\* \*\* \*

## Lamont will try to allay EMU fears

# Bank calls on reserves to back pound

BY COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE Bank of England is braced to deploy its accumulated \$44 billion of foreign currency reserves to stave off any fresh assault on the pound and avoid the government being forced to raise interest rates to defend sterling.

Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, in Brussels for a meeting of European Community finance ministers, is expected to try to allay fears of a Maastricht summit breakdown over monetary union that could undermine the existing European exchange-rate mechanism (ERM).

The meeting of finance

ministers, which began yesterday, is to prepare for next month's intergovernmental conference. But the near-parity conditions on the foreign exchange markets on Friday have made restoring calm over currencies a priority.

The Treasury sought to play down the importance of the pound's tumble. A spokesman said last week's decline in the pound reflected a "sharp movement world-wide" rather than anything specific to the pound. Despite intervention to brake the slide, sterling closed 2 pence weaker in London at DM2.8525, dropping to about DM2.84 by the New York close. Its floor against

the mark is DM2.78. The Treasury said the sharp movements created difficulties for currencies in the narrow, 2.25 per cent fluctuation bands of the ERM. Despite a half point increase in French interest rates, France had to support the franc. The government fears small rises in rates could be equally ineffective in supporting sterling.

Britain remains on the broad, 6 per cent bands. To underscore its view that the pound was the victim of a mark-dollar battle, the Treasury noted that the pound had risen 3 cents against the dollar in ten days and had firmed against the yen.

Mr Lamont, who has claimed a strong pound as one of the government's successes, reaffirmed last week that he will do "whatever necessary" to maintain sterling within the ERM. The Bank of England only used an estimated \$250 million on intervention last week. Intervention appeared half-hearted on Friday, prompting accusations of official complacency. Under ERM rules, the British authorities are obliged to buy the pound as soon as the currency reaches its lower limit, or effective floor, against the strongest ERM member, a position long held by the Spanish peseta.

In the absence of central bank support, the peseta also weakened against the mark, allowing the pound's effective floor to drop. Given the relatively small sterling-peseta market, currency analysts believe successful intervention to hold the pound above its effective floor should be neither difficult or costly. Spain's reserves would also be employed to restore sterling, although, oddly, the obligation to intervene is only binding between 8am and 3pm GMT.

Central banks of ERM members are in daily telephone contact to co-ordinate foreign exchange policy. The combined reserves of all member states could ultimately be marshalled in defence of the system. Any immediate shortage of a central bank might have of an intervention currency can be met through a special short-term finance facility.

Although the pound shared the decline of other "soft" currencies, as investors switched from the dollar to the mark last week, internal fighting over Europe within the Conservative party and the patchy evidence of economic recovery are likely to prevent any significant sterling rebound.

German inflation figures, out this week, could show slight acceleration in November, which would reinforce market belief that the Bundesbank might still raise its key rates.

Economic View, page 23  
Gilt-edged, page 24

Alexander: few signs

## Whitehall denied subscriber names for marketing

# BT hangs up on Treasury call

BY MARTIN WALLER

THE government's near-£6 billion sale of part of its BT share holding is causing a degree of friction between government departments and the company.

BT refused to allow the government access to its register of 20 million telephone subscribers and potential shareholders ahead of the marketing campaign. The Treasury and its advisers, who are privately furious at what they see as a lacklustre and diffident approach by BT to the sale, were forced to rely on out of date electoral records rather than BT's own lists, which would have provided the perfect marketing tool for the shares sale.

BT refused to comment on the marketing of its shares, referring all callers to the government's own advisers. "I'm not permitted even to talk to you about that," said a BT spokesman. Customer records have been used in previous privatisations to provide a reliable list of potential shareholders, most recently in the sale of the 12 regional electricity companies a year ago.

BT is understood to have raised nu-

merous legal obstacles when its records were requested earlier this year, particularly relating to the Financial Services Act and the Data Protection Act. The company deemed it "inappropriate" to use the available records, but one insider said: "If they had wanted to get around it, they would have done."

BT upset the stock market with some depressing interim figures at the start of this month, leading independent analysts to cut this year's profits estimates from £3.35 billion to around £3.2 billion. Several market-watchers have even accused BT of understating those figures in an attempt to defuse criticism over its high prices.

BT's lack of warmth to the impending share sale is thought to stem from two causes. The company is not looking forward to the logistical difficulties of having to service millions more shareholders in coming months. Several of the holders in coming months made regional electricity companies made complaints to that effect earlier this year after the stampede for their shares.

BT is also not keen to see its share price pushed ahead to unsustainable levels by

the publicity surrounding the share sale at a time when the company expects profits to come under increasing pressure from the recession and the regulatory authorities.

Making his own contribution to the debate, and in terms apparently unhelpful to those trying to market the shares, is Peter Lilley, the trade secretary, who has chosen today to spotlight the increasing competition BT faces in its core markets. Mr Lilley is enthusiastic that he has received 16 applications for new telecoms licences and knew of nearly 30 other companies considering such a move. "Further proof of the government's success in encouraging more competition in the telecoms market," he said.

"The rest of the decade will be a decade of more competition, more and better products and services, keener prices and higher expectations from telecoms users," he added.

While good news, presumably, for consumers, this is unlikely to be regarded as a bull point for City analysts pondering the prospects of the sale.



Mining for a stake in the industry: Roy Lynk, president of the UDM

## UDM to put plans for coal privatisation to Wakeham

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

LEADERS of the Union of Democratic Mineworkers are to put detailed plans to the government for a buyout of all or part of a privatised coal industry, which will include the union holding seats on the board of a private coal company.

Plans drawn up by the UDM, together with Lloyds Merchant Bank, for a possible bid by the Coalmining Consortium, the group the union and the bank are to sponsor, are now well advanced and will be put to John Wakeham, the energy secretary, next week.

The consortium has held preliminary talks with several potential investors and with NM Rothschild, the government's adviser, which will help carry out the privatisation of the industry if the Conservatives are re-elected.

Roy Lynk, UDM president, stressed that the union was opposed to the government's plans to privatise the coal industry, but said that if privatisation were to happen, the union would seek the best possible arrangements for coal employees - not just its own members. "We are not going to have people buying our industry and taking decisions threatening our future. We want to have a say in our own future."

Lloyds and the UDM are likely to ask the government to make over to the industry's employees 10 per cent of the equity in a private company as a form of loyalty bonus, and would then set aside a

further 15 per cent for an employee share ownership plan, to allow them to buy shares on a preferential basis.

UDM leaders believe that an employee holding of 25 per cent would give it a number of seats on the board of a private coal company. Mr Lynk insisted that being on the board would not affect the UDM's role in the industry as a trade union.

The consortium, which would seek investment from financial institutions, possible commercial partners

and the banks, would hope to buy all or part of a privatised British Coal with an as-yet undetermined but low bid, using other money to finance employee loans, acquisition costs and on-going business costs. The consortium hopes to have in place by this time next year full funding, a management team and operational and supervisory boards.

Consortium leaders are insisting that an employee-led bid would only be made if British Coal was a worthwhile financial prospect.

## Maxwell sons meet bankers today

BY OUR CITY STAFF

THE sons of the late Robert Maxwell face their toughest challenge since their father's death when they meet today with bankers owed £800 million.

Kevin and Ian Maxwell are keen on a debt moratorium, as is National Westminster, the main lender, to give them time to unravel some of the confusion surrounding the business affairs of the Maxwell companies. But some of the other banks are considering the appointment of administrative receivers.

Kevin Maxwell is reported to have told Swiss Bank Corporation, whose decision to call in an outstanding £55 million loan started the chain of events that brought the Maxwell empire to the point of collapse, that his father had sold shares pledged to the bank as collateral for the loan. Swiss Bank is known to want an early exit from the situation, and the other banks are likely to press for asset sales to raise cash.

For his part, Mr Maxwell will reveal the state of the finances of the various interests controlled by his family and how he proposes to service the debt. Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte, the accountants, has drawn up a detailed report which will be presented to the banks.

Mr Maxwell is considering selling Maxwell Communication Corporation, the main Maxwell quoted vehicle, and raising fresh funds by means of a £250 million bond convertible into Mirror Group Newspapers, the other quoted company.

The Maxwells are keen to maintain their control of MGN. But the banks regard their 51 per cent shareholding as the most easily saleable asset. The Maxwells are also likely to come under pressure to sell or close the loss-making newspapers *The European* and the *New York Daily News*.

Mr Maxwell is thought to be looking for a partner to help stem some of the losses at *The European*. He is also seeking the appointment of a merchant bank, with NM Rothschild seen as favourite.

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FROM JOANNA PITMAN IN TOKYO

**BY JON ASHWORTH**

## Sweet success: Bob Clarke tastes new markets

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH

BY GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

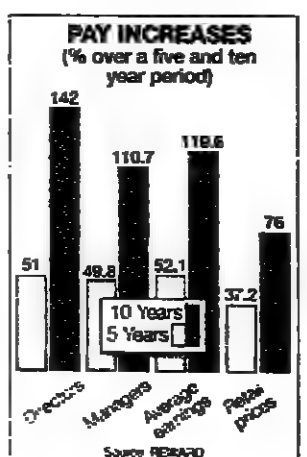
Coleridge: central pool

BY MARTIN WALLER

**BY COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT**

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

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ECONOMIC VIEW

COMMENT

# Selling German cast-offs

The German Treuhand privatisation agency will go on the offensive in Britain tomorrow, launching a campaign to attract British investors into eastern Germany. This will not be an easy task. So far, British firms have invested money in only 90 out of about 4,000 privatisations, not exactly an enviable record, although better than once thought likely. Another 6,000 companies are left to be privatised if they are not to be closed. British investors do not appear to be queuing up for them.

A strong impression has spread outside Germany that western German companies have already picked the plums. Ministers in Bonn and Berlin have frequently exhorted the rest of western Europe to invest, but big companies anxious to gain a worthwhile foothold in the expanded German market via the east have frequently found themselves frozen out or restricted to insubstantial participation. Somehow, the big German combines, some of which have staff seconded to key positions in the Treuhand, have tipped in to keep out the foreigners and protect and enhance their market positions. Some might feel any subsequent foreign marketing drive is a cynical ploy aimed purely at disposing of companies past their sell-by date. Only detailed examination of what is on offer will confirm or confound that conspiracy theory. What should cause concern, however, is that the German authorities allowed such perceptions to arise in the first place.

Few institutions have been subjected to so much contempt and anger from so many different sides as the Treuhand. The closest British precedent is probably the investive heaped on the Independent Television Commission over the inconsistency of its decisions in the television licence auctions. The Treuhand has displayed this sort of inconsistency on an economy-wide scale. In some cases, the highest bidder wins; in others, the investor who guarantees maximum job preservation. Sometimes it is neither and in most cases nobody understands how these decisions are made. In the meantime, the former state companies linger on amid all this uncertainty, with their staff and management not knowing what the future will hold or whether there is any point to their reforming efforts.

The Treuhand generates more losers than winners, suggesting that this model for privatisation is fatally flawed: a form of centrally managed receivership operated by a public quango, run by an authoritarian central committee. Like most aspects of German monetary union, the decision to set up the Treuhand was taken on the run, with little debate about possible alternatives, as there has been in Czechoslovakia or Poland. Both these countries have chosen a combination of privatisation methods. Such a system would have been appropriate in Germany. It would have allowed eastern Germans to participate, through shares or other entitlements, in the privatisation of what are, after all, their companies, rather than be cast in the role of inactive and disinterested bystanders. Most of the inactive and disinterested bystanders sold to outside bidders, but the means of achieving that often sensible end would have been more positive, and therefore politically more astute.

Sceptical British and foreign investors might, however, still find it worthwhile to sift through what the Treuhand has on offer. Subsidies are massive, and the financial risks are therefore small, though anyone who thinks of eastern Germany as a low-cost production zone is heading for trouble. Eastern and western German wages are to converge over time and wages in eastern Germany will soon be higher than in Britain. The Treuhand will, partly as a result, find it even tougher to privatise the next 4,000 companies than the first batch, so the rest of eastern Germany's business should at least be a buyer's market.

# Wall Street holds real clues to troubles besieging currencies

Anatole Kaletsky says investors, including the Americans, are losing faith in the dollar

The true causes of the collapse of sterling and other "soft" European currencies against the mark last week were to be found not in Westminster but in Frankfurt and New York. Last week's real economic story was the flight out of the dollar into the mark.

Investors round the world are losing faith in the dollar, including, for the first time, Americans themselves. For roving American funds, with little experience of the ERM and distrustful of European politics, Germany is the natural first port of call and this phenomenon alone explains most of the recent weakness of sterling and other European currencies against the mark.

The key question is whether the flight out of the dollar will continue in the immediate future or whether last week's 4 per cent fall marked a selling climax, at least for the time being. To a large extent, the answer depends on American stock prices. The Wall Street mini-crash of November 15 was clearly the proximate cause of the dollar's plunge last week. If Wall Street keeps falling, the dollar will probably follow, just as it did in 1987. If Wall Street stabilises, the dollar-mark rate could do so as well, at least until the end of the year.

This would give the European currencies a chance to settle down again before Mass-tricht and almost certainly avert the politico-economic crisis of an ERM realignment after the summit.

But what if Wall Street were to suffer another Black Monday? With the dollar weak and America and Britain still teetering on the edge of recession, the world might be in for a period of financial and political instability on a scale not seen since the mid-Seventies. This column is not usually in the business of making stock market predictions, since stock market behaviour depends more on psychology than on economic fundamentals, except in the very long term. But in the present circumstances, economic policy is so dependent on Wall Street that it is tempting to take a stab at psychoan-

alysing the stock market. Hence the unusual subject-matter in this column. These pages both a long-term perspective on Wall Street's present level and a clue to the psychological factors that will determine when and if another crash occurs.

The message, for what it is worth, is reassuring about the immediate prospects, although disconcerting on a longer-term view. The top chart shows that Wall Street is still extremely expensive. Stock prices are as high, even in real terms, as they have been at any time in the past 30 years. The second chart, illustrating the decline in American real wages since the mid-Seventies, suggests that high equity valuations have not reflected the Ameri-

can economy's real performance, and also demonstrates in the clearest possible way the fundamental reasons for the country's present political malaise: for a generation American workers have been getting steadily worse off.

However, the second row of charts is more encouraging.

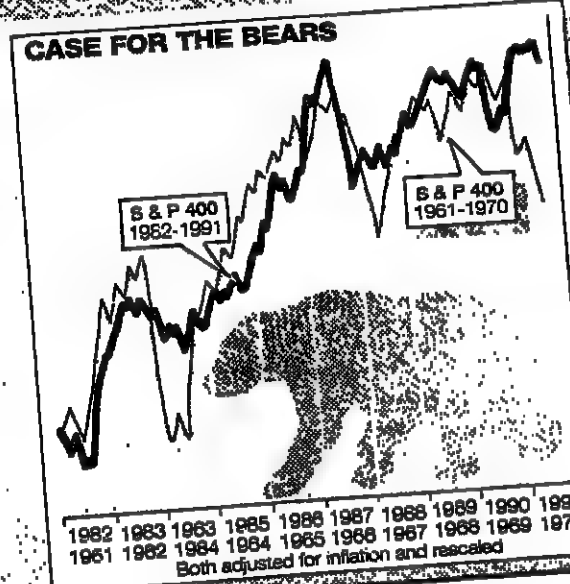
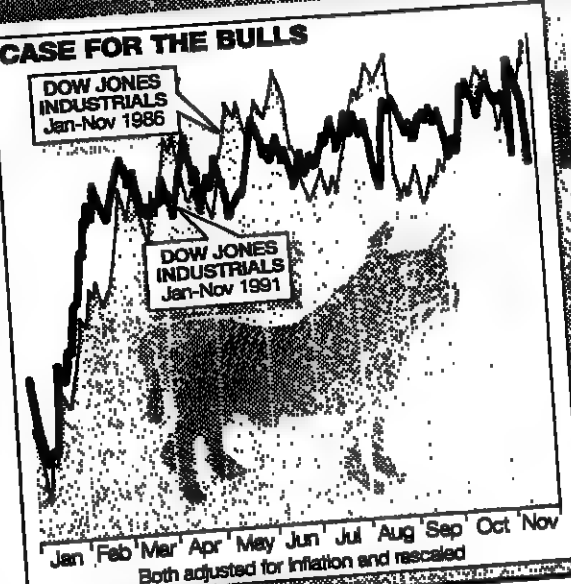
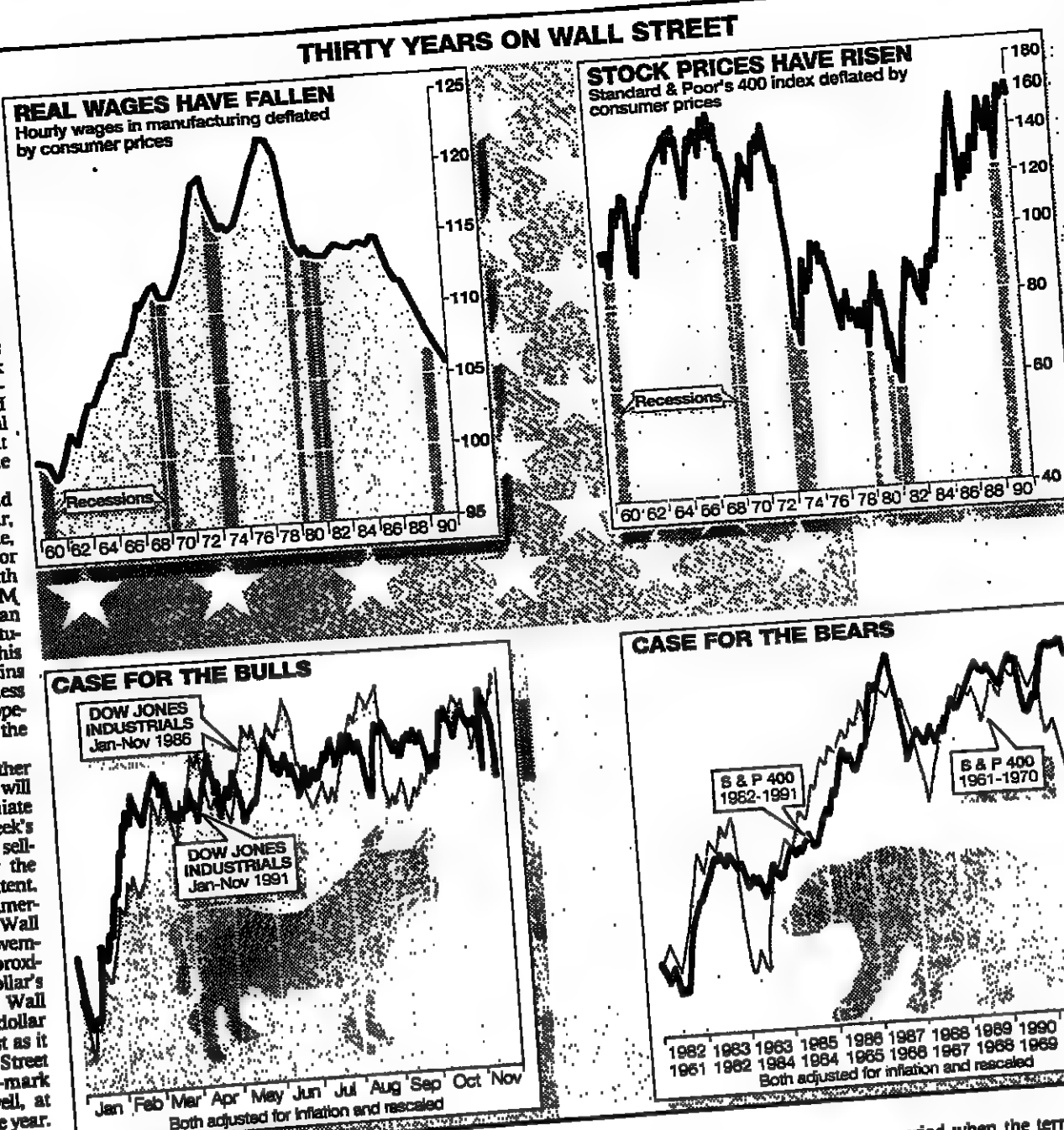
The first of these shows that the true historical analogue for last week's sudden setback on Wall Street was not the period leading up to the crash of October 19, 1987, or even the mini-crash of October 13, 1989. Rather it was the series of sharp sell-offs in the autumn of 1986. This was the

period when the term "triple witching-hour" was first invented to remind Wall Street of the destabilising effects of futures and options expirations, like the one that occurred two Fridays ago. If the resemblance between the chart patterns of 1986 and 1991 were to continue into

the future, a powerful surge in prices could be in store, just as it was in the first half of 1987. From a fundamental perspective, this prediction would seem quite reasonable if the economic recovery generally forecast for America in 1992 actually happened. Just as in 1987, when growth was accelerating rapidly, a sharp rise in the stock market could then precede this period of rapid growth. But just as in 1986-7, the dangers of a much bigger crash would not be permanently laid to rest if the market pulled out of its present difficult period.

On the contrary, by mid-1992 a massive fall in the market would be well overdue. As the last chart shows, the stock market's performance during the long economic expansion that began in 1982 bore an uncanny technical resemblance to the pattern in the only previous economic expansion of comparable length — the "golden age" of equities in the Sixties. Both bull markets followed a very similar five wave sequence, punctuated by very sharp setbacks in 1987 and 1986. But in the final phases, the two bull markets parted company. In the late Sixties, the stock market fell 36 per cent ahead of the 1970 recession and took 20 years to recover its value in real terms. But Wall Street's fall in the 1990-1 recession was much more muted and was followed by an immediate recovery last spring. In fact, Wall Street hardly reacted at all to the prospects of an American recession, preferring to follow the military developments in the Gulf conflict instead.

In other words, American equity prices have not remotely adjusted to the end of the golden era of the Eighties. If last week's events were the start of such an adjustment, the outlook is grim for financial markets, and politicians worldwide. But the American economy may yet show some signs of recovery in the weeks ahead. Provided it does, Wall Street will probably suspend disbelief until next year.



## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Hague joins Doctus team

SIR Douglas Hague, Mrs Thatcher's economic adviser in the run-up to the 1979 general election, today joins the board of Doctus Consulting Europe, the management consultancy, as non-executive chairman. Or does he? Sir Douglas, who sits on the board of CRT, the consultancy, recruitment and training group, is not sure whether he believes what he reads in the newspapers. He was on holiday in Germany when CRT purchased part of Doctus in August, and remained blissfully unaware that the deal had taken place. "I read in The Times that CRT had bought a bit of Doctus and thought it was a hoax," says Sir Douglas, an ardent supporter of Manchester United and old friend of Sir Roland Smith, the club chairman. Mrs Thatcher used to tease him about his support for the club in the days when Manchester United fans had a bad reputation. "On Fridays, she used to ask who I was fighting that weekend," he laughs.

### Actors all

NATIONAL Westminster Bank is about to prove that banks do have a sense of humour — just. Officials have agreed to a send-up of its agreed to a send-up of its campaign in which various clerks enthuse about their work to strains of Vangelis. John East, chief executive of Guidehouse Securities, and Rupert Hambro, chairman of JO Hambro Magan, will add their bit on December 1 in *Funny Money*, an annual satirical revue in aid of charity.

John Hyatt of TSB, popularly known as "the singing bank manager", has an Elvis impersonation up his sleeve, while David Kidd, a top City solicitor at Cameron Markby Hewitt, takes time off from the Polly Peck case to star in a spoof of *Blind Date*.

PEOPLE who suffer from stress pull their hair, ears and nose, grind their teeth and bite their lips, according to a study by the *Legal & General's* *Stress* magazine. Stress points to avoid include redundancy, financial hardship, loss of income, dismissal and loss of a valued asset. All very timely. L&G has just cut more than 100 jobs.

### Clampdown

BANKERS at J Rothschild are growing used to the antics of Oliver Letwin, a member of the corporate finance team for the past five years and prospective parliamentary candidate for Hampstead and Highgate. At 9.30am today, his Volvo estate is — or was, depending on when you read this — due to be clamped in a Hampstead street in



protest at Camden council's decision to introduce residents' parking permits in the area. "I have gathered a petition from local shopkeepers who are up in keepers who are up in arms about it," says Letwin, 35, who served on the prime minister's policy unit before joining Rothschild and is running against Glenda Jackson for a seat in the House. Camden introduced the £75-a-head residents' scheme to deter commuters from leaving their cars there during the day.

### Money talks

STOCKHOLM is the most expensive conference centre in Europe, and Oslo the cheapest. A three-day conference in the Swedish capital will cost £461 a head on average; way ahead of Oslo at £277 and Lisbon, the second cheapest at £309. London was the fourth most expensive after Stockholm, Paris and Berlin, with an average price of £356 per head. "It was interesting to see how competitive London was as a venue," says John Palmer, of SRS Hotels, which anonymously approached four-star hotels in nine cities for its survey. For those who are interested, the cost of a three-day conference in Stockholm for 50 people is likely to reach £23,000... minus airfares.

### Filling the gap

THE powers-that-be at Smith New Court are having a hard time replacing Mike Styles and Keith Sykes, the top-ranked electronics analysts who left in September and have since re-emerged at Crédit Lyonnais Laing. The firm has been talking to Patrick Wellington, of County

NatWest, and Adam Quinton, of UBS Phillips & Drew, among others, but negotiations have broken down. In the meantime, SNC has resorted to advertising in the national press for "energetic specialists" to fill the gap. UBS, meanwhile, has problems of its own. Nick Measham, highly respected telephone analyst, is resigning to join Brinson Partners, a Chicago fund management group. Measham, an old Oxonian, was known as "the scourge of Cable and Wireless" when at Barclays de Zoete Wedd.

CRISIS! What crisis? The ERM currency grid published on Reuters Monitor yesterday had the pound second from top of the ERM, above the mark and not at the bottom where it ended last week. Had there been a sneak realignment? A decision to raise base rate? No, assured Reuters. The data were simply wrong.

### Brand names

AFTER BTR's takeover of Hawker Siddeley, what will happen to that famous name of British engineering? BTR says it preserves names of companies, such as Dunlop, that it takes over. But most of Hawker's newer businesses have their own brands. If BTR's Alan Jackson does not need the name, he could do worse than sell it to British Aerospace, inheritor of Hawker's nationalised aircraft business, for the price of the pictures of old aeroplanes still adorning Hawker's nostalgic St James's HQ. After all, Hawker Siddeley did once make cars as well.

JON ASHWORTH

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The rest of the firm will be moving in three further phases, full details of which will also be published here.

## MORGAN STANLEY

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November 25, 1991



## SMALLER COMPANIES

## Unlikely formula works for TT shares

TT GROUP is an acquisitive holding company with interests in engineering, characteristics that would appear unlikely to appeal to investors in a recession. Yet its share price has proved remarkably strong this year, rising from 90p in February to 182p, with a peak of 194p.

That is some achievement for a company known to harbour expansionary hopes and not averse to issuing paper to finance them. TT owns 38 per cent of Magnetic Materials after failing to gain full control with a bid that lapsed last July.

TT acquired Crystalate Holdings last year for £38.5 million in a hostile bid. The benefit of rationalising this supplier of electrical components was evident in interim profits up from £3 million before tax to £4.5 million and a 6.6 per cent increase in earnings per share.

Crystalate should drive profits ahead for at least two years, despite the recession. It is a leader in the British and American markets for resistors and is a leading supplier of components for control systems used to regulate air conditioning and fuel injection in cars.

Crystalate was the company's third major acquisition after United Packaging and Beaton Clark, two companies that were merged to constitute TT's packaging division. The group, formerly known as Tyack Turner, also has a building products division, which is expected to hold trading profits at around £1.9 million this year. This includes Burgess Architectural Products, which makes 80 per cent of Tesco's requirements for metal ceiling tiles.

Last year, TT made pre-tax profits of £10.5 million, including a four-month contribution from Crystalate. Sara Wigglesworth, an analyst at Panmure Gordon, expects £14.8 million pre-tax profit and 14.5p earnings per share this year.

MARTIN BARROW

## REPORTING THIS WEEK

## No sparks from electricity groups

THE privatised electricity companies start their interim reporting season this week, but may have little to delight their new shareholders. Despite strong balance sheets and healthy increases in profits, modest dividend increases are likely as each company strives to avoid the attentions of the industry's regulator.

National Power, the generator whose pricing policies are already being reviewed by the Office of Electricity Supply, is expected to announce first-half pre-tax profits of between £190 million and £210 million tomorrow, compared with £171 million last time. However, the City will be pleasantly surprised if the interim dividend exceeds 3.1p, up from 2.75p.

Norweb, the regional electricity company, should deliver a jump in pre-tax profits from £5 million to £14 million. The interim dividend is likely to rise from 4.09p to about 5.2p.

Pre-tax profits of £12 million are expected from London Electricity on Wednesday, dwarfing last year's comparable £1.1 million, with an interim dividend of 5p (4.45p).

## TODAY

Vodafone, the mobile telephone group demerged from Racal Electronics, should report pre-tax profits of about £130 million for the six months to the end of September, up from £122 million.

Although the 6 per cent advance is a healthy increase in current markets, it represents a marked but predictable slowdown from last year's rise of 63 per cent.

The number of new subscribers is falling, together with usage levels, a combination that has been aggravated by further increases in the number of subscribers opting to leave the network altogether.

Interim results from Dawson International, the textiles group, should show a decline from £17.3 million before tax to £15 million, although the dividend is expected to be held at 2.9p. Weak consumer demand and high raw material prices have put margins under pressure.

Interim Allen, CSR, City of London PR Group, Dawson International, Hewlett-Packard Group, Merrydown Wine, National Grid, Viroplasm, Vodafone Group, Plaxco, Govett Atlantic Investment Trust, Metro Radio Group, Nival Holdings, Sunlight Group.



Showing resilience: Tate &amp; Lyle's Neil Shaw

Economic statistics: CBI monthly trade survey (November); engineering sales and orders at current and constant prices (September).

## TOMORROW

A 5 per cent fall in the half-time figures at Allied-Lyons, where Michael Jackman was recently appointed chairman, is likely to be attributed to difficult conditions at Hiram Walker because of lower demand for wines and spirits.

Pre-tax profits of about £270 million, down from £286 million, will benefit from a supply agreement with Greenall Whiteley, which will disguise a decline in beer volumes of up to 7 per cent. Market interest will also focus on the recently announced beer merger with Carlsberg.

Despite a deterioration in conditions for food retailers, Argill is expected to follow Sainsbury and Tesco with a strong rise in first-half earnings.

The market is looking for taxable profits of about £174 million, up from £142.4 million.

Analysis believes that Argill's Safeway chain experienced a decline in sales volumes in existing stores in September.

The shares in Premier Consolidated Oilfields underperformed after last year's disastrous placing of Burmah's 29.9 per cent stake in the company. Premier has made great progress operationally and is on target to report interim net income of £6.4 million, against £3.2 million.

Interim: Allied-Lyons, Amber Industrial Holdings, Argill Group, Christie Group, Eskine House Group, Kewell Systems, Mann, Currie European Investment Trust, Monda Investment Trust, National Power, North American Gas Investment Trust, Northern Foods, Norweb, Premier Consolidated Oilfields, Saxon Healthcare Group, Skelton, Southdowns, Walker & Shaw Holdings.



Profit slip: Michael Jackman, of Allied-Lyons

Trust, Fairline Boats, Young (H) Holdings.

## WEDNESDAY

Tate & Lyle, the sugar refiner that generates more than half of group profits in North America, will demonstrate its resilience in the recession with an increase of about 8 per cent for the full-year to £236 million before tax. Neil Shaw, the chairman and chief executive, will highlight a sparkling performance in Britain.

However, declining sugar prices in America and a lacklustre performance at Bundaberg, a recent acquisition in Australia, may sour the City's reaction to a 10 per cent increase in the dividend to 11p.

Profits at Unigate, the transport and dairy products group, are estimated to have fallen from £41.4 million to

£39 million in the first half as further restructuring takes its toll. Buyers are being sought for large parts of the business, including the car rentals division, which continues to suffer from poor trading. A maintained dividend of 5.7p would reassure investors that progress has been achieved.

Kwik Save, the discount food retailer, should benefit from the flight away from branded products to cheaper goods. Full-year profits of between £98 million and £103 million are forecast, compared with £85.1 million.

North West Water has opted to diversify into engineering despite the sector's preference for waste management and acquisitions have taken place in Britain and America. Their contribution to full-year profits will be negligible, but analysts are still looking for an increase

from £115 million before tax to £125 million, with a dividend of 6.6p, up from 6p.

Interim: BCE, Calsonic, Golden Hope Plantations, Humber, London Electricity, Marston, Thompson & Everashed, Mid Kent Holdings, North West Water Group, Northumbrian Water Group, Unigate.

Finals: ABI Leisure Group, Apollo Media, Capital Radio, Dunedin Worldwide, Investment Trust, Kwik Save Group, Morton Holdings, Tate & Lyle.

Economic statistics: Building societies' monthly figures (October); new vehicle registrations (October).

## THURSDAY

Disappointing interim figures are likely from BPB, the plasterboard manufacturer, reflecting low volumes in Britain. Some price increases have been achieved in continental Europe, but margins closer to home continue to suffer. A maintained dividend of 4p was forecast at the time of July's rights issue.

Royal Bank of Scotland issued a warning to shareholders three months ago that final profits would disappoint. Market forecasts range between £60 million and £90 million before tax, compared with £262 million, depending on the level of provisions against bad debts.

Profit forecasts for Welsh Water range between £74 million and £80 million for the first half, compared with £72.7 million last time, supporting an increased dividend of about 7.1p, up from 6.5p. South West Water, another privatised water company, should report profits little changed from £76.4 million, with a dividend of 7.2p, up from 6.7p.

Interim: ARI Holdings, Anglo American Corporation of South Africa, BPB Industries, Broadbent Holdings, Brown & Tensie Group, Calsonic Investments, Castings, Compton Holdings, GE International, Grangeon Talmont, Johnson Matthey, Macdonald Martin Distillers, MEC Corporation, Osborne & Little, South West Water, Tanneries Leisure, V-Tech Holdings, Wessex Water.

Finals: GT Asia (Straits) Fund, M&P, Royal Bank of Scotland Group, Scottish Investment Trust.

Economic statistics: Energy trends (September).

## FRIDAY

Wessex Water, which is investing heavily in its waste management side, should comfortably exceed last year's interim £34.9 million before tax, with profits as high as £41 million.

Interim: European Cellular, Overseas Group, Pennine, Stoddard Salford International, Wessex Water.

Finals: News announced.

Economic statistics: London sterling certificates of deposit (October); storey statistics (including bank and building society balance sheets); bid turnover (October); sterling conversion paper (October).

MARTIN BARROW

## Global car sales to fall 2.9%

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

WORLD car sales are expected to fall this year by 2.9 per cent, their largest decline for a decade, according to a forecast for the motor industry, published today. Japanese cars, it also suggests, will account for 20 per cent of sales growth in Europe over the next five years.

The report, compiled by DRIMcGraw-Hill, says that while the car market in the UK is likely to recover next year, the peak reached in 1989 will not be touched again before the mid-Nineties.

World car demand, the forecast adds, will have fallen from 35.47 million sales in 1990 to 34.44 million this year, but will recover fully to 35.49 million in 1992 and rise to 40.32 million by 1996.

While the car market in western Europe is set to grow overall this year — largely boosted by a post-unification boom in the German market — DRI suggests it will fall next year, driven by contraction in Germany.

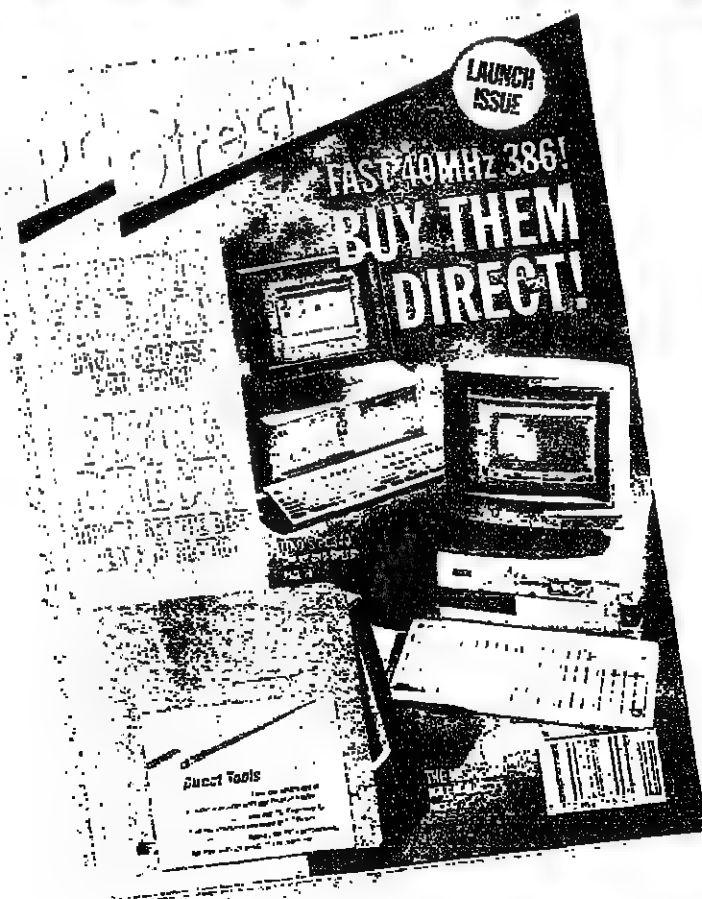
In the UK, DRI estimates that the severe recession has led to a 30 per cent fall in sales from the 1989 peak of 2.3 million to only 1.6 million, even worse than the fall in the early Eighties. But the forecast improvement in the economy next year looks set to drive a rise in car sales, pushing the total up from 1.6 million to 1.79 million — although this is still the second-lowest level since 1984.

By 1993, the market is forecast to be above 2 million again, returning to 2.3 million by 1996.

Japanese manufacturers will benefit from the expanding market demand in Europe, the survey suggests. Within the European Community, where the new car market should rise from 1.2 million in 1990 to 1.4 million by 1996, DRI expects the share of Japanese firms to rise from 10 to 11.9 per cent.

The forecast suggests that by 1996, Japanese production capacity in the Community is likely to be more than 700,000 units, with Nissan, Toyota and Honda producing significant numbers.

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## Jewellers tagged worst performers

By Gillian Bowditch

JEWELLERS have been the worst performing retail sector this year, according to Verdict, the market research group.

Its report on jewellery retailing comes at a time when Britain's largest jewellery business, Ratners, is suffering heavily from the effects of the recession.

Verdict says jewellers were the last retailers to go into the recession, with the decline in sales having started in the second half of last year, but the plunges in demand have more than made up for the delayed reaction.

The report says that as retailers enter the critical pre-Christmas trading period,

most are hoping for the much vaunted, but so far invisible, consumer recovery. But with only five weeks of the trading year left, the sector's sales are down nearly 6 per cent on last year.

Verdict expects a modest last-minute improvement in demand but is forecasting that jewellers' sales will end the year 4.7 per cent down on 1990, with the market value having dropped from £2.48 billion to £2.37 billion.

No company, says Verdict, exemplifies the dramatic shift in retailing's fortunes better than Ratners, headed by Gerald Ratner.

The report says: "The company has an unrivalled pos-



ition capturing around 30 per cent of the market through its various facets. H Samuel is the leading chain in the country and generated average sales of £789,000 per

store in 1990-1. In the current year Ratners has found itself in the unfamiliar position of experiencing falling sales and, despite stringent measures to control costs, 1991-2 results will be disappointing."

While the recession has undoubtedly depressed jewellery sales, Verdict says the sector would have been unable to sustain its record of high growth in any case.

As for Ratners, the report says the question shareholders should ask themselves is "would the group be more successfully run by someone else?" It believes the answer is no and adds: "Ratners should emerge from this recession a stronger and sounder entity."

## GILT-EDGED

## Caught in sterling's slipstream

Last week, the gilt-edged market had a preview of what conditions may be like in the next six months — the prospect of a substantial supply of debt in an atmosphere of heightened uncertainty. Sterling's fall from grace served as a reminder that, from time to time, ERM membership will act as a drag on the bond market.

In the 12 months since the pound entered the ERM, the performance of gilts has been very favourable. Granted, the economic background has been beneficial, the recession bearing down on inflation and contributing towards the improvement in the trade balance.

As in the past, fixed income investors responded positively to these developments. But this time, the new currency regime has also played an important role in boosting confidence in the prospects for interest rates.

The government's adherence to a staunch "no devaluation" line on sterling, endorsed by the shadow chancellor, helped to establish a degree of policy credibility vital to attract a more sustained inflow of international funds to gilts. The strength of overseas interest has been such as to ensure the continued success of the authorities' gilt funding

programme. More importantly, Britain has been able to benefit fully from the convergence of ERM yields towards those prevailing in the low inflation EC countries. Since the beginning of 1991, the yield difference between ten-year British and German bonds has fallen 80 basis points to about 1.65 per cent (at its best the difference was as low as 1.3 per cent).

This trend has been very favourable towards gilt performance but has reduced severely the market's protection from adverse developments on virtually all fronts. Consequently, the latest bout of sterling weakness was almost bound to shatter investor confidence. Lack of buying interest, domestic and more especially international, just before this week's £1.5 billion long-dated auction, presented perfect conditions for a consolidation of prices.

In the past 12 months sterling's depreciation to well below its central ERM rate has been cited as affording a good buying opportunity. The process of yield convergence, fuelled by a favourable economic performance and the assumption that the currency would recover, offered the prospect of capital gains.

This time, however, investors are likely to be more re-

strained — for two reasons. First, there has been a notable increase in uncertainty in the currency market. Fears over a post-Maastricht currency realignment have caught hold; this, more than the shock delivered by the rise in French interest rates, has served to drive a wedge between the so-called hard and soft currencies of the ERM.

Devaluation uncertainty has affected sterling worst and will continue to act as a depressing influence until the inter-governmental conference has passed. Even then, investor interest in bonds may be tempered by the second consideration. The process of yield convergence between Britain and the Continent may falter temporarily; it would be wrong to assume such trends proceed in an uninterrupted manner.

The market now requires a significant change in the background to restart the convergence process. This is unlikely to come from the performance of the economy where the favourable prospects are, in very large part, discounted.

The supply of government debt, on the other hand, remains a potential threat to stability unless overseas investors become more enthusias-

tic. This is where the key lies. Devaluation uncertainty will diminish after the Maastricht summit but will still be present while political uncertainty persists.

Uncertainty over policies that might be adopted in the event of a Labour election victory will trouble overseas investors, despite the apparent similarity of the parties' currency stance.

Understandably, there will be concerns about an administration that has been out of office for 13 years, even though in the context of ERM membership, a new government would be at pains to establish quickly a high degree of management credibility with the international community.

Without a resurgence of government popularity in the opinion polls and a significant advance in the German bond market, therefore, gilts' performance is likely to remain erratic and disappointing.

In view of the weakness of the economic recovery — the main factor the government is relying on to boost its standing with the electorate — the next sustainable stage to the rally may be some way off.

CHRIS ANTHONY, UBS Phillips &amp; Drew



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	Price	Why	%	Yr		Min cap	Category	Price	Why	Net	Yr	P/E
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30.10	Vodolniz	253	-15	17.0	9.2	4.84	Br Thyonin	11		18.00	Sac Tanya	50	-2	2.2
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0.39	Collinsville	38	-2	0.5	1.8	11.8	10.84	Greentree	87	2.1	0.6	22.10	Watson	99	+2
0.94	Collinsville	38	-2	0.5	2.9	12.9	9.71	Greentree	2	2.1	0.6	22.60	Wylie	99	+2
1.07	Daily Farm Int	66	-10	1.6	6.9	10.5	1.32	Greenwood Sec	14	8.0	7.6	9.34	Young (H)	61	+2
22.30	Dunwoody	38	-10	1.6	6.9	10.5	123.10	Haden Mfg Co	41	8.0	7.6				

120.30	Walmart & Phil	357	-2	11.0	4.3	17.1
7.18	Amgen (T)	34	-1	2.0	6.1	8.8
4.14	Amgen (T)	29	2.0	6.1	8.8	
K.O.Z	Kalamazoo	11	1.1	1.5	2.8	21.0
101.40	Kalam	87	2	1.8	5.7	7.9

108.70	Smiles	40	-	3	2.1	7.1	29.60	Dragon Asia	78
108.70	Smiles	40	-	3	2.1	7.1	78.40	Dragon Cos	204
212.40	ML	40	-	4	2.4	6.3	71.10	Dragon Cos	204
293.00	ML	40	-	4	2.4	6.3	22.70	Dragon Eng Int	55

...	...	333.86	BSC	574	-22			8.0	15.2	149.00	FINDS
...	...	2,703.50	BSC	534	-24	3.2					
...	...	170.50	BSC								

253.70	Monks Inv Tr	347	-13	0.9	5.7	22.0
104.80	Murray Income	233	-6	...	6.3	20.0
277.90	Murray Int	232	-9	3.7	2.1	48.0
		247				

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4.00	

9.8	9.0	38.00	HIV Group	3	...	2.5
4.0	7.6	0.80	Ind Machine	41	...	2.0
2.0	15.0	8.34	Ind Resource	18	3 1/2	2.0
17.0	17.0	17.40	Kumuck			

**MINING**

11.3	3.4	7.9	1,477.00	Drexel	124	+75
2.9	3.4	8.0	4.07	DRX	6	+73
				Durban	300	+12
				Durham	160	+12

2.0	13.1	29.3	630.40	Nth Britn Hld	109	-
			250.40	Orange Prod	1152	+12
			4.164.50	RTZ	518	-
					1327	-

6,397.36	Honda Motor	0.12
6,147.80	Jacks (Wm)	30
3.25	Jestura	37
4.83	Jestura	153

11.90	Adverse	50
64.50	BPP	25

56.10	Arabian Export
5.29	Atlantic Res
	Asia Oil & Gas
	Asian Res

Mkt cap	Company	Price	Wtdy	Net	Yld
\$ mil		10/1	10/1	div	%

34.50	Dunlop	91	4.0
5.51	Dunlop Jimenez	118	3.8
6.22	DW Face	63	3.0
18.50	Easyway Low		12.5

81	4.3	34.20	WPP	53	-12	8
16.3	3.9	163.30	Water	234	+1	7
3.7	4.4	157.40	Waddington U)	198	+3	10

19.30	Cap & Regime	178	-
8.18	Cardiff Prop	200	-
92.50	Chesterfield	483	-10
7.50	Chronic	32	-

22.70	Granger	114	-
303.80	Gr Portland	184	-
114.10	Greycoat	130	-
		68	+

19.5	5.0	13.0	5.00	New Cavendish	40
	4.8		17.00	New Eng Prop	17
			196.40	Cutory Est	36

50.30	Strong & ...	201
37.80	Style	

2.0	3.3	28.9	19.90	Jerome (S)
3.3	3.3	16.5	90.20	Lamont
6.6	5.0	12.8	36.60	Leeds

2	= 14	..	..	..	69.50	Merrill Lynch
34	= 1	.	.	..	127.30	NFC
11	..	..	..	..	1,224.50	Ocean Group



**Court of Appeal**

## Order against non-party invalid

being made by the wife or details upon which she based case. There was no evidence the brothers had been served

Mr Taylor fell into error. Mrs Maidment submitted evidence not open to the court.

proceedings which clearly named as an application under Matrimonial Homes Act 1967 give relief based upon equal rights, such as those arising an express trust.

Mrs Maidment was right submission. It was not open court to join third parties were not affected by the provisions will be to grant

Mr Justice Ward delivered the following concurring judgment.

**Solicitors:** Darlington Parkinson, Acton; Bin Lovibond, Uxbridge.

## Warrant val

His Lordship consid  
other grounds of defence  
setting the demand aside  
having rejected them were

say that coming back to the main line of defence, Mr. Fisher argued that unless the matter been an Order 14 motion, his Lordship would have been able to say that there was no triable issue, then he had no option but to set the statement aside.

thoughts that having regard to the straightforwardness of the creditor's claim and the nature of the debtor's defence, the best course was to order that the demand be set aside provided the debtor paid the sum in dispute into an account in joint names of the parties. Solicitors within 14 days should proceedings not be

There was, in his Lordship's judgment, jurisdiction in the court to require the return of the writ.

word "may" in rule 6.5-1986 Rules which impose element of discretion.

Solicitors: Davenport  
Nabarro Nathanson.

**Management Science  
Operational Research**

Class 10: Davis S O  
Class 11 (IDE): Bostic S F, Cho  
B; Cockburn P M, Hines S M;  
B; Evans C A; Montgomery R  
Rochester J C; Sharp N A; Unsworth  
Young J R  
Class 12: Allen S D; Bell P J; Bell  
Hartman M J; P; Rothstein D J

**Management Science**  
**Economics**  
Class II 504 R. Ashton C. Ch.  
Demarells C. L. M. W. Lock W. C.  
Class II 504 R. Ashton C. Ch.  
D. J. Gore R. M. Peck A. C. Tye  
Taylor I. S.

Class A Goulder N C; Sanstrom  
Class II (Div 1): Bright A; Cook  
Collingwood I R; Edmondson  
Edmore L E; Ford A; Foster  
Griffiths S V; Hodge J; Hoffman  
Jocoy E H F; Kattman D E; K  
A; Leander J M; Loozebros  
Marrfield B J; Mendis E; Mo  
Reed J M; Shepherd D R; Shale  
Smith A F; Treasurer C C; Wild  
Class II (Div 2): Baker B C; Ba  
Burton J N; Derbyshire P A; F  
Greta M G; Horne S J R; Old C

**Marketing & Organizational Studies**  
 Class II (Only 1): Dunsan A & E  
 T 2

**Marketing and Economics**  
 Class II (Only 1): Alhum S D; C  
 Class II (Only 2): Pascoak A K; P

**Marketing and Psychology**  
 Class I: Grundwell J. R.  
 Class II (Dlv 1): Kichle K. N.

**Mathematics**  
 Class I: Donney S. A.; Gladman  
 Class II (Dlv 1): Farrell E.; Griffin  
 Homan H.; Hull I. C.  
 Class III (Dlv 2): Ackerson S. A.; Big  
 J.; Stevens M. R.; Hoyle S. H.; Short  
 V.; Swanson, M. J.

**Mathematics and Operations Research**  
Class I: Eubank D S  
Class II (Div 1): Pang C Y, Sew  
Such C L  
Class II (Div 2): Ambrose R A  
**Mathematics and Philosophy**  
Class I: Hall M A

**Mathematics with Statistics**  
Class II (Dlv 1): McNamara E; M  
E

**Organisation Studies and**  
**Psychology**  
Class II (Dlv 2): Berwick E; Gae  
Wilkinson C J

**Physical Electronic Engin**  
Class I: Humble J  
Class II (Dlv 1): Coaker B M; R

**Physics**

Class R: Enrico M F: Barry  
Skillman A J  
Class H (Div 1): Cummings R; D  
P L  
Class H (Div 2): Bailey S F: Edwards  
Hamilton D H: Hopkins A C; W  
Osborne M M: Rogers K A; Webb  
Class III: Carlisle C E.: Darrow  
Russell A: Little M J

**Physics with Mathematics**

Class II (Dw 1): Burt D A

**Psychology**

Class I: Coleman J; Wood J M

Class II (Dw 1): Brice J L; Bynche  
Clement J M; Cocking W D; Cohe  
Croxford A L; Farr L J; Jackson  
Kirland E; Morrish L M; Nawro  
Riley S L; Steele-Mandarin H  
Stockton D A; Teynot M S; Wintne

Class II (Dw 2): Askrworth J L; Bal  
Brazil J G; Coze R M; Fyfe  
Howarth J P; James M A; Lark

**Theoretical Physics.**  
Class I: Claughton N R; Gaudin  
Class II (Div 1): Baker J A; Elliott  
Matthews W A  
Class II (Div 2): Atchison G J  
Class III: Attridge N D  
Pres: Lockhart S C

100

[illegible]



The European Community today discusses its role in education, below, and, right, how EC policies are benefiting colleges

## Brussels eyes teacher training

Whatever the outcome of the prime minister's negotiations in Maastricht, Europe will continue to loom ever larger in the world of education. The extent of the European Community's involvement in a sensitive area not covered directly by the Treaty of Rome will be demonstrated today at a meeting of education ministers in Brussels.

On the table will be a 44-page memorandum on higher education, the sector that offers a foothold for the European Commission through its classification as vocational training. Essentially a survey of Community initiatives, the report is likely to encounter little opposition from Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, and his fellow ministers because it carries no commitments.

Hywel Jones, the director of the Commission's education task force, says: "It is a kind of green paper, intended to get discussion going in member states about future lines of development by raising issues of common interest. There is no legislative intention or hidden agenda."

The defensive stance recognises that the educational debate over Europe mirrors the wider political one. Although students and academics have embraced Community programmes with enthusiasm, the government remains wary of anything that might widen the Commission's role, while a vocal group of Euro-sceptics challenges the whole basis of its involvement.

Martin Holmes, a research fellow at Mansfield College, Oxford, and a member of the academic advisory board of the Bruges Group of anti-federalists, says: "Higher education does not recognise national boundaries. The Community does not represent Europe as I would use the term, and I would regard any attempt to create a 'little Europe' as anti-educational."

The EC itself has started to tackle the problem by extending the exchange programmes, which form the core of its educational activity, to members of the European Free Trade Association. Today's memorandum acknowledges

### How far away is the single educational currency?

lenges the importance of links with non-member states, but inevitably sees education in the context of the Community and its development.

British higher education has led the participation in the growing list of Community programmes. Universities and polytechnics are involved in the Erasmus programme of inter-European exchanges, most have taken advantage of the Comett programme linking industry and higher education internationally, and the British Council is to share the administration of the Lingua programme to raise foreign language competence.

*'The document is suffused with the idea that central planning is best'*

The approach of the single market has led to a marked increase in the attention being paid to the European aspects of teaching and research. The popularity of dual-subject degrees aimed at the post-1992 job market has given a new lease of life to language departments.

Many exchange schemes and joint degrees with other European institutions owe nothing to the Community, apart from the growing interest of students and employers. But the impact of Erasmus and other programmes has been felt in an increase in the number of students coming to Britain from the Continent. The process is likely to speed up under the internal market to such an extent that ministers have already expressed doubts about continental Europeans continuing to

pay fees at the same rate as British students.

The Commission's memorandum raises the possibility of stimulating exchanges further by providing financial support for students, although it notes that this would involve large budget increases. It also identifies a new role for the EC as a provider of information on higher education throughout Europe to encourage greater mobility.

Further progress is expected in the thorny area of the recognition of qualifications, which has always been seen as education's main direct contribution to the completion of the internal market.

Potentially the most controversial of the Commission's proposals is to step up the Community's involvement in teacher training as part of a move to increase the European dimension of curricula "at higher education level as in all other educational sectors".

Two years ago, a proposed extension of the Lingua programme to schools, as well as an implied requirement for two foreign languages at entry to higher education, caused the most serious clash over the Community's education programmes. Mr Clarke foresees no such problems today, but the Euro-sceptics are still counselling caution. Dr Holmes detects centralising tendencies in several of the Commission's proposals. "All these harmonisation measures start out in this way, as consultation document," he says. "The whole document is suffused with the notion that central planning is the best way to organise higher education."

There are few signs of the majority of academics or students agreeing, especially while the Community is seen as a valuable source of funds.

The parallels with the wider political debate inevitably will continue. The same suspicions exist over the ambitions of the Commission, and the concern to include central and east European countries in educational collaboration is stronger than in many fields. The single educational currency is a long way off.

JOHN O'LEARY



Learning with Europe: French, German and Spanish students in a language laboratory at Middlesex Polytechnic, London

## Poly wins a slice of Euro cake

British students are already taking advantage of a £57 million programme to encourage study overseas

Middlesex Polytechnic is so proud of its European connections that it subtitled itself the European Polytechnic. The north London college sets an example to its rivals in Britain, sending 7 per cent of its 10,000 students for up to a year at a time to continental campuses.

Middlesex takes maximum advantage of the European Community's £57 million a year Erasmus scheme to encourage student mobility within the EC. The whole United Kingdom, however, sends only 1 per cent of its undergraduates to do part of their courses on the Continent, and British students' share of this Euro cake last year was a mere £4.5 million.

The scheme is only four years old and already 45,000 students have taken part. In the first year, only 5,000 swapped places at an overseas university. During the four years, the number of inter-university cooperation programmes has risen from 400 to 1,800 throughout Europe and from 106 to 375 in Britain.

Such has been the enthusiasm in Brussels for this initiative that officials are saying that the EC

should have started with this scheme rather than with trading alliances. The aim is that by 1995, 10 per cent of all Europe's undergraduates will take advantage of these grants.

Ted Lewis, the head of academic development at Middlesex, says: "The polys have always been more innovative, less tied to the traditional. They have tried harder to bridge the gap between what students want and what business needs. In the 1970s our business studies department started forging links with European universities. Our director was then on the Erasmus board. Once faculty got the European idea, they find it can be very inspiring."

"Our problem is trying to evaluate the real pay-back, especially at a time when resources are stretched. The Erasmus grants do not cover the time and the lost teaching hours that running these

courses entails. But our courses with a European dimension attract a higher standard of student than do other courses."

At the polytechnic, which is spread over six sites, 14 courses offer three to 12 months a year at 27 European campuses, stretching from Rome to Amsterdam, from Valencia to Stuttgart. Most places go to those involved in the BA European economics and the BA European Business administration courses.

Klaus Hiedensohn, the programme head of the BA European economics course, says: "The courses take a lot of working-out. There is much travelling backwards and forwards. The first stage of the EC grant covers the costs of getting the academics together and working out what they are going to do." Although Middlesex and others

have worked out integrated courses with some colleges, the EC course credit-transfer scheme is still in its pilot phase. So far, the pilot scheme covers business administration, chemistry, history, mechanical engineering and medicine. Universities from each of the 12 EC countries participate.

One of the universities working on the credit-transfer scheme in history is Sussex. Ted Nahkile, the planning officer, says: "Because we do a European studies degree, more than 20 per cent of our 3,500 undergraduates now spend a year at a continental university as part of their course."

"Those in the Erasmus scheme comprise only about a quarter of those who go. The main problems we have with students going abroad for part of their course concerns their ability to speak the language."

At Middlesex, meanwhile, the polytechnic's administration is looking forward to achieving university status in 18 months' time. No doubt the polytechnic will keep its continental sub-title.

HUGH THOMPSON

## Last gasp of a failed system

Yesterday's heresies are today's orthodoxies. At the first meeting of the School Examinations and Assessment Council (SEAC) in 1988, I dared to suggest that it was too easy to get an A-grade in the new GCSE examination.

My fellow council members saw this as an eccentricity, but harmless enough to be indulged. By 1990, it was agreed that the A-grade should be split in two. The upper of the two halves was to represent a more genuine challenge for the most academically inclined boys and girls, from 1994 onwards.

I forged which language it is that compares unfavourably with Spanish through having no word that conveys the same sense of urgency as *mañana*, but English as she is acted upon in SEAC could be a contender.

When I later voiced misgivings about the large role that course work had come to play in GCSE, I was met with the same tolerant incomprehension. My colleagues seemed oblivious to the symptoms I had detected: parents weary of devilling for their children's essays, teachers bewildered by obscure arrangements for "moderation" and a vague uneasiness that highly geared learning was being sacrificed to free-wheeling creativity.

Incomprehension became incredulity as my next offence against educational good taste. I argued that not all teachers and pupils were enamoured of the general science that was to replace the separate disciplines of physics, chemistry and biology. It seemed to me that it was better to let schools make their own minds up about this than to tell them what was good for them. Finally, the

### Systematic testing is sounding the death knell for comprehensive ideals

ultimate hallucination: why not find out whether or not our young people were learning to spell, by marking their GCSE scripts accordingly?

None of this got to the real heart of the matter. The GCSE reform, which Sir Keith Joseph, when education secretary, had encouraged in the mid 1980s and that so many of us supported, never actually came about. In many subjects, however, it became an examination in which the same papers were taken by all candidates, from the least to the most academic.

In the event, the transition appeared smooth. When the first GCSE results were published in 1988, there was general rejoicing at a national performance that was better than before. Or so the statistics told us. Word soon got around, though, that this was because the new examination was easier. Fortunately for its adherents, nothing could be proved, because the syllabuses had been changed and the uncertainty of course work had been thrown in. We were starting with a clean sheet.

When statistics cease to be a genuine guide, impressionistic evidence fills the vacuum and takes on a new credibility. In the schools, there has been no shortage of reports of trivialisation of syllabuses and dilution of standards, especially those expected of the most able. Yet it need not have been at the

latter's expense that Sir Keith's bold initiative was introduced.

GCSE remains the right recipe for giving a fair crack of the whip to all, provided it is the differentiated system that was originally intended and that at each level children are taught not according to vaguely defined "criteria" but to clearly defined syllabuses.

This cautionary tale will probably turn out to be the last nail in the coffin of the comprehensive system. Whatever justifications can be advanced for unselective schools, they do not extend to unselective examinations.

In the end, systems are judged by results. It has long been an embarrassment that the part of the United Kingdom which has by far the best examination results is Northern Ireland, where selection has been retained.

*Mañana, however, is coming closer. We now have a national curriculum designed to provide clear specifications of what needs to be taught and it will be tested systematically. As for GCSE, according to the latest press reports, sensible limits will be placed on course work, and the written examinations are to "stretch the ability of the most able so that they do not have to answer questions foolishly below their ability and protect the less able from being ruthlessly exposed to papers they cannot answer."*

When all this has come to pass in 1994, I hope that the new heretics will enjoy the same tolerant treatment from those who call the time as this old heretic experienced.

ARTHUR HEARNDEN

*Arthur is general secretary of the Independent Schools Joint Council and a former member of SEAC.*

### A national sex policy

SCHOOLS should not be allowed to decide for themselves whether and how sex education lessons should be taught, Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, will tell this week. Margaret Jay, director of the National Aids Trust, will tell him that there must be a national policy. Mrs Jay is supported by Doreen Massey, the association's director, who says: "Sex education in schools should begin at the age of five with very simple language and continue until the children have no more questions to ask. They are crying

out for good sex education from parents and teachers."

#### Girls first

ELIZABETH Diggory, the headmistress of St Alban's High School for girls, is the new president of the Girls' Schools Association. Miss Diggory, aged 45, says: "Girls' schools should promote first and foremost the success of women."

#### Mining history

WITH only three pits left, the south Wales mining industry is being relegated to the realms of history. The



Elizabeth Diggory: equality industry's heyday will not be forgotten by West Glamorgan's primary school pupils, who are this term researching the coalfield's history. Assisted by Theatre West Glamorgan and Swansea Museum, pupils are visiting the sites of former collieries, re-living miners' lives with

drama and re-examining documents and pictures relating to the period. Most of the county's 164 primary schools are taking part and the project, Brothers And Black Diamonds, continues at Swansea Museum until Christmas.

#### Dr McCarthy

WHILE universities, the church and the government consider the best way to honour Britain's hostages, particularly Terry Waite, Hull University has already decided to give an honorary doctorate in letters to John McCarthy, the Beirut hostage released in August and who will return to Hull next month. Mr McCarthy graduated from Hull in 1979 with a degree in American studies.

DAVID TYLER

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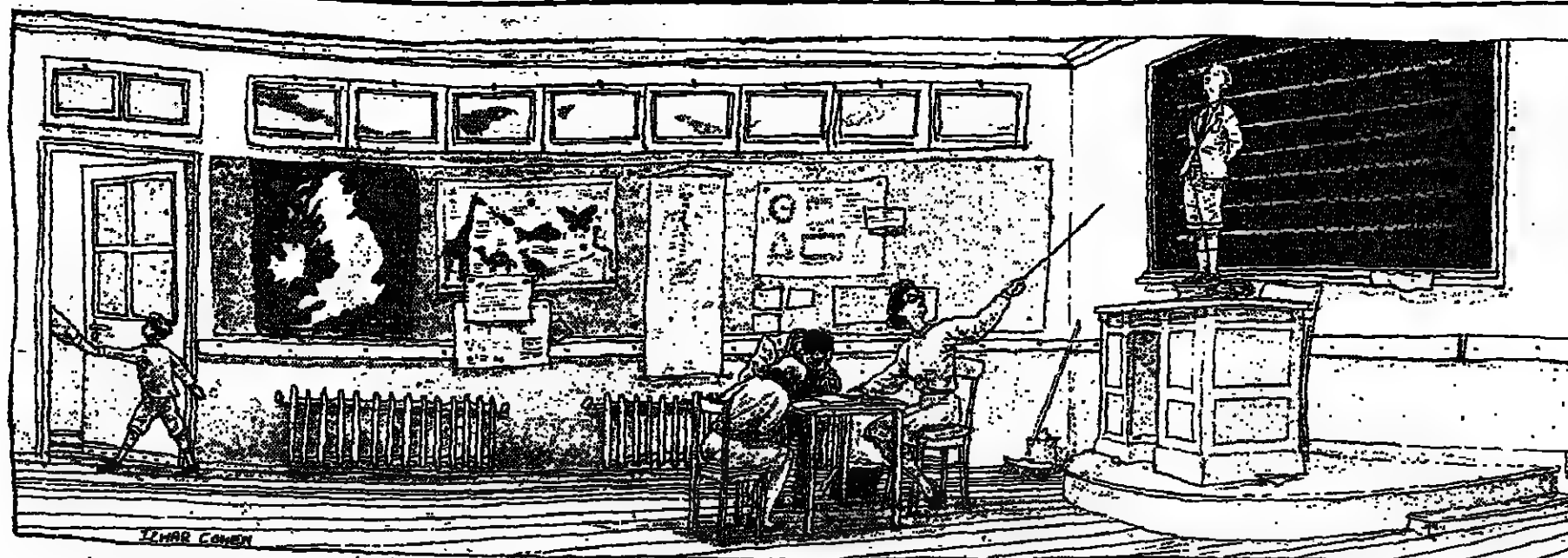
When Every Note Counts: The Schools' Instrumental Music Service C Sharp

Authoritative: spine of a new publication on music









## When parents go to school

Many parents recall the experience through gritted teeth: the clock ticks around to 8.55 as, fifth in the queue, they wait for their 8 o'clock appointment. The maths teacher - whom their child has advised them not to see - is still reassuring the parents booked in 30 minutes before that they need not worry about their son's examination prospects.

With luck, it will be over by 9.30, an hour later than planned. Is it worth it?

The answer is usually yes. Parents' evenings provide a chance to put a face to a name, to be reassured about progress, to find out why, for example, the school does not teach grammar as former grammar school parents remember it. But too often, the appointment system breaks down, the teacher's ideas seem woolly and parents leave with little more information than previously.

How, then, can parents get the most out of these evenings? Peter Smith, the general secretary of the Association of Masters and Mistresses, says: "Be prepared." He says: "Many parents find such warnings daunting and formal and allow the teachers to dominate the agenda. They should know exactly what questions they want to put."

One parent, Penny Mesure, of Denham, Buckinghamshire, agrees. "Teachers do not realise that the smell of a school goes to parents and they immediately become 12 years old again," she says. "Parents are at a disadvantage; teachers are already primed up."

Parents who are not well prepared when invited to discuss their child's progress can easily waste a night. Timothy Rice reports

An appointment is likely to be ten minutes at most, so time cannot be wasted. Eve Fuller, of Bromley, in southeast London, remembers that her son's Latin teacher put an egg-timer on the desk to ensure she did not go over her time. "In fact," Mrs Fuller says, "we both became so animated that we went on for half an hour."

Parents have to realise that time is limited and they cannot go on making the same point six times over; few things infuriate teachers more.

According to Trevor Millum, father of two and a former teacher, parents should beware teachers who open with: "Now tell me about Joanna." They probably have not the slightest idea who Joanna is.

Such experiences are common, especially if the pupil sees the teacher only once a week. Parents of one asthmatic child were astonished to hear that he was being warmly recommended to join the Army. Another couple were delighted that after a series of depressing reports on a child, one teacher was brimming with praise, only for it to dawn gradually that she was speaking about another child.

One sixth-form college principal emphasises that parents should expect a school to aim high. Dennis Lavelle, of Whinstanley College, Wigan, Greater Manchester, says: "Parents should

complain and say, 'This is not the way to do it.' The parents' minds, however, are not on the children but on the queue to see the teacher. The night becomes an obstacle course and they can become very angry. But this is a public service and they are paying teachers' salaries. Appointments should not run immediately after one another but be spread out."

Conversely, parents should write a note if they are happy with

**'Nothing will be achieved by forcing a confrontation'**

the evening. Mr Lavelle says: "Such letters from parents make up for an awful lot. Sometimes teachers talk solidly from 6 until 10."

Schools have devised a variety of ways of overcoming the administrative headaches. Some send all the parents to one large hall, with names clearly shown. The disadvantage is the embarrassment of being overheard by the next-door table if you are discussing a delicate matter. But at least the coffee is near by. Some prefer one teacher a classroom, which can involve parents in an orienteering

course around the school, but may offer privacy.

At the Sir Frank Markham Community School in Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, every year intake is divided into three "houses" so that only one third of the usual sea of parents attend on any one night.

Martin Mathews, the deputy head teacher, explains: "What is wrong with parents' evenings is only what is wrong with teaching and education - it is the conveyor belt approach. Teachers see too many faces in different years. What will make the circumstances better is teachers and children knowing one another, and having continuity."

Primary schools, which operate in a less formal way than secondary schools, may have something to teach them. Their open afternoons are relaxed affairs, often with the children's work on display, which can help parents' appreciation of what has been done before they meet teachers. Yet they also have the advantage that the parents will probably see only the form teacher, although appointments systems are used.

Once they have found their way to the right teacher, parents should know that certain questions or attitudes are likely to be counter-productive. Asking how your children rank in relation to others in the class may result in heavy teacher flanneling, particularly if the pupils are under 15.

## Size is at heart of class battle

WHEN parents are asked what changes would most improve education, they invariably say that class sizes should be smaller.

But smaller than what? How alarmed should parents be that according to a National Union of Teachers survey, primary class sizes are increasing? Or that perhaps a quarter of all children are in classes of between 30 and 35 pupils - in some cases even more?

There is no definitive, optimum class size. Such evidence as there is suggests that the ideal pupil-teacher ratio is not one to one. Adults who had individual tutors or governesses when young will testify to that: siblings play as significant a part in education as adults. Below a certain number, probably about 15, pupils start to lose the class dynamic that broadens experience and stimulates competition.

Everybody accepts that class sizes can be too big. Most people, especially those with children of primary age worry about anything over 30. In my experience, 25 is about the right number, assuming that classes are not mixed-age, where the spread of ability and maturity poses additional problems for teachers.

Practical considerations underpin the debate. Of crucial importance is the time a teacher can devote to each pupil for personal support, assessment, perceptual difficulties, and encouragement. Equally, so is the burden on the teacher of marking and correcting: the more meticulously this is done, the better for the child.

The national curriculum is based on the assumption that pupils, individually or in groups, will be at different levels in each subject and will progress at different speeds. While whole-class teaching has its place, and has indeed been rather neglected by some teachers, a part of each day must be reserved for group and individual teaching. The bigger the class, the harder this becomes.

Traditionalists might say the answer is to revert to chalk and talk, claiming that then it does not matter what size the class is. Not too many parents would warm to this, and rightly so.

Schools have to cope with the fact that in few places do parents collectively contrive to produce offspring in neat groups of 25 of each age. It follows that some classes will be bigger than average, some smaller. Heads must also try to make classes smaller at the infant rather than at the junior stage. And that is not easy.

Underlying everything is cost. Even if the extra teachers required to allow for smaller classes could be found, the budget implications would be considerable. Parents are exercised about books, about the state of school buildings and many of them about the level of teachers' pay. Priorities and resourcing take the argument into the political arena.

Teachers' unions will, understandably, put class sizes at the top of the agenda. Ministers will point out that there is more to a good education than class size alone. What is fact is that class sizes and pupil-teacher ratios appear to be rising again as local authority budgets are constrained. There is no good educational reason for this: if 25 seems a sensible sort of level, the existence of too many classes of more than 30 is not good news for pupils, for parents, or for teachers.

Reformations between central and local government will impress nobody. Either improving education and raising standards is a national priority, or it is not.

If it is, bigger classes are counter-productive: teachers must deliver a great deal, without again facing odds of 35 or 40 to one.

**DUNCAN GRAHAM**  
The author is the former chairman of the National Curriculum Council

**Teachers should not have to face unfair odds**

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## RUGBY LEAGUE

# Wigan take their time to crush gallant Cougars

Wigan ..... 32  
Keighley Cougars ..... 8

BY KEITH MACKLIN

THERE were contrasting experiences for two young players making their first senior appearances in this Regal Trophy second-round game at Central Park yesterday.

Andy Hinchliffe, the former Otley and Yorkshire rugby union centre, was thrown in at the deep end by Peter Roe, the Keighley coach. On the Wigan side was Stuart Turner, signed by Wigan from Widnes for a tribunal-decided peppercorn fee of £6,000. He was pressed into service on the wing by the coach, John Monie, because of Wigan's huge injury list.

Not surprisingly, Turner had the better of it as the first division side recovered from a surprise 8-0 deficit and a first-half struggle to eventually wear down determined Cougars resistance. Turner

scored three tries to crown a remarkable debut for a player who was loaned out to Highfield last season.

He would be the first to acknowledge that the spade-work for his tries was done by three experienced internationals, Gregory and Edwards, the half backs, lifted Wigan out of their first-half trough, and the New Zealand flanker, Bell, Turner's centre partner, nursed him well.

On the Keighley side, Hinchliffe had no real running opportunities but he did some fine defensive work as Cougars, like Huddersfield and Batley in the Regal Trophy last week, put up a tremendous fight against illustrious opponents.

Keighley, after taking an 8-0 lead with a brilliant breakaway try by Eyres and two goals from Wasilw, tackled so well that Monie had to change the Wigan tactics and tell his players: "Forget about going down the middle and run it wide".

## RESULTS AND TABLES

REGAL TROPHY: Second round						
Bradford	44	Sheff Wed	10	Cardiff	16	
Widnes	30	Oldham	18	St Helens	31	
Warrington	10	Salford	30	Wigan	32	
Keighley	8	Featherston	34	Haltwh	18	
STONES BITE CHAMPIONSHIP						
	P	W	D	L	A	Pts
St Helens	10	7	2	2	216	153
Widnes	10	7	2	2	220	132
Leeds	10	7	2	3	222	138
Warrington	10	7	2	3	222	138
Wigan	10	7	2	4	218	158
Hull	10	5	0	4	240	200
Salford	10	5	0	5	215	197
Widnes	10	5	0	5	215	197
Cardiff	10	5	0	5	137	200
Hull	10	4	0	6	176	175
Hull KR	10	4	0	6	134	210
Widnes	10	4	0	6	152	182
Swinton	10	2	0	7	103	209
Bradford	10	1	0	8	144	204
SECOND DIVISION: London Crusaders						
14	Leigh	4	Warrington	20	Ryedale	Yn



# Grange Brake set for treble

WITH 16 winners in the bag already this season, Nigel Twiston-Davies now needs just two more to equal his previous best total.

Twiston-Davies can move one step closer to that fine achievement by winning the Reynoldstown Cup at Wolverhampton today with Grange Brake.

The five-year-old has already made two positive contributions to the stable's tally this season by winning both his races at Uttoxeter.

On the first occasion he became the fourth leg of that excellent four-time for the Gloucestershire trainer, while on the second he proved too strong for the favourite, Transmitt, who was backed as if defeat was out of the question following a good victory first time out.

The stamina that Grange Brake has shown on both occasions should stand him in good stead now that he is being confronted by Peter Easterby's recent Haydock winner, Bolin Patrick, and Dakyns Boy, who won a bumper for John Edwards at Fairyhouse in Ireland last season after scoring earlier at Bangor.

Today's programme on the Midlands track begins with an interesting steeplechase for novices, primarily featuring Deplete, Springaleak and Dusty Miller.

Well as Deplete won over today's course and distance a fortnight ago, I still prefer the Oliver Sherwood-trained Springaleak, who also made a successful start to her chasing career at Wincanton.

Simon Sherwood, the

## MANDARIN

MICHAEL PHILLIPS

younger of the two brothers, has decided to fan the flames of interest by running Dusty Miller, who was about as good as Springaleak over hurdles.

However, Springaleak now has both fitness and experience on her side, which should compensate for the fact that she has to give Dusty Miller weight.

If Deplete fails to win this time, consolation for his jockey, Richard Dunwoody, can come in the form of winning the Widow Twankee Handicap Chase on Whatever You Like, who is a half-brother to the reigning two-mile champion chaser, Katabatic.

Whatever You Like, even on his seasonal debut, looks like material in this company over fences that took in a couple of decent races at Newbury.

Miss Pokey, who was a noticed third behind Burgoyne, can defy top weight in the Grand Theatre Handicap Hurdle, more especially since Burgoyne went on to run such a gallant race behind Cab On Target at Newbury on Saturday.

At Catterick, Cab On Target's trainer, Mary Reveley, can remain on target by landing a treble with Footing With Pleasure (1-10), Hi Jane (2-40) and Kagram Queen (3-10).

Since there is nothing between Simple Pleasure and Tresidder on form as far as the W L & Hector Christie

Memorial Trophy is concerned, I am happy to see with Hi Jane, even though she fell first time out.

Last season she took well to chasing, capturing a handicap over today's course and distance after winning against novices at Market Rasen (twice) and Wetherby.

Bradbury Star, who was my choice to win the valuable H & T Walker Gold Cup at Ascot earlier this month, is taken to enjoy a morale-boosting win by landing the Daily Mail Novices' Chase at Folkestone, having got no further than the first fence on the Berkshire track.

Before that his jumping at Kempton and Warwick had been faultless.

Cool And Easy (3-30) looks another winner for Josh Gifford.

# Pipe looks forward to Carvill's Hill run

By MICHAEL SEELY

MARTIN Pipe, fresh from his triumph with Chatham in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Newbury, was yesterday looking forward to running Carvill's Hill in the Rehearsal Chase at Chesham next Saturday.

"Both horses are in next-door boxes," said the all-conquering wizard of Wellingborough. "For a change, they were fed first. Chatham was shouting from his grub and telling everyone he's won the Hennessy. Carvill's Hill is also in tremendous shape and he's pleased me a lot in his work recently."

Ladbrokes offer 25-1 against Chatham for the Chesham Gold Cup, but only 10-1 against Carvill's Hill.

Pipe and Peter Scudamore now face an even bigger challenge to their joint skills with the former Jim Dreaper-trained nine-year-old, whose reputation as Ireland's most exciting chasing prospect since Dawn Run was continually marred by injury and the occasional disastrous jumping error.

"I schooled him down at Nicholashayne on Monday and Tuesday," said Scudamore. "He's always been able to stand off a long way, but now he seems to be learning about putting in a short one when necessary."

With the benefit of hindsight, the reason for Chatham's remarkably easy defeat of Party Politics and Docklands Express in the first important long-distance chase of the season is easy to understand.

To date, the flashes of exceptional ability shown by the

gelling when finishing third to Kribensis in the 1988 Triumph Hurdle, when winning a valuable handicap hurdle later that month by a distance and again when romping home in last March's Cathcart Challenge Cup at Cheltenham, had only given glimpses of the horse's potential. On Saturday, however, everything at last came to fruition for Adrian and Bernard Nolan, Chatham's Tipperary-born owners.

Weeks of hard work and patient schooling by the arch perfectionists, Pipe and Scudamore, including the fitting of a special bridle to correct the gelding's tendency to hang to the left, paid a £27,895 dividend before a crowd of 16,100 — an increase of 6 per cent on last year.

The 10-1 winner gave a repeat performance of Strands Of Gold's similar first-time-out win for the trainer.

Disaster struck the punters when not only Garrison Savannah and Cool Options, the 6-1 joint favourites, were pulled up, but also last year's winner, Arctic Call, who started to gurgle after jumping the second fence on the final circuit.

At Newcastle, Derek Byrne, the jockey on Sybilin, who finished third to Royal Derby in the Fighting Fifth Hurdle, was given a five-day ban for careless riding (December 2-6), after trying to force his way between Nomadic Way and the rails entering the straight.

Pipe: full confidence for a Chatham victory



Pipe: full confidence for a Chatham victory

MANDARIN	THUNDERER	RICHARD EVANS
12.50 Springaleak	12.50 Springaleak	12.50 SPRINGALEAK
1.50 Pacific Sound	1.50 Pacific Sound	(nap)
1.50 WHATEVER YOU LIKE (nap)	1.50 Highfibre	
2.20 Grange Brake	2.20 Dakyns Boy	
2.50 Paced Prawn	2.50 Paced Prawn	
3.20 Miss Pokey	3.20 Ascot Lane	

The Times Private Handicapper's top racing 3.20 ACROW LINE

1	119145	GOOD TIMES 18 (B.F., 5-10) (M. D. Robinson) 8-11-10	B West (7)	86
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25	119145	GOOD TIMES 18 (B.F., 5-10) (M. D. Robinson) 8-11-10	B West (7)	86
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GOING: GOOD (CHASE COURSE); SOFT (HURDLES)

12.50 GENIE OF THE LAMP NOVICES CHASE (22,319: 2m 4f) (15 runners)

<b>12.50 GENIE OF THE LAMP MOVIES CHASE (22,319; 2m 40) (15 runners)</b>				
1	6/FFP/6	DEPLETE 14 (C.F., 5-10) (M. D. Robinson) 8-11-10	R Dunwoody	87
2	131111	SPRINGDALE AK (F.G., 5-10) (W. S. Wams) 8-10-10	J Chisner	9
3	00/00/0	383 OSCAR 897 (Fullback) Partnered K. Pika 7-10-12	A Torny	9
4	00/00/0	CREEZEAK 1000 (C.F., 5-10) (J. J		











# Pleat's life at Luton has little to laugh at

Luton Town ..... 2  
Manchester City ..... 2

By CLIVE WHITE

AS ERIC Morecambe, comic and Luton Town supporter, used to say, "Get out of that". Relegation in this, of all seasons, though, is no laughing matter and, this time, there may be no great escape for the Bedfordshire club; not if its luck at Kenilworth Road on Saturday is anything to go by.

Victory is hard enough to come by for Luton these days without referees like John Key breaking their hearts. When Steve Redmond was penalised for pushing Brian Stein in the back, in injury time, Key allegedly awarded Luton a penalty, only to change his mind after consulting the linesmen about the position of the offence.

Even the dismissal of Redmond came too late to be of any benefit to the bottom club in the first division.

With three of the four teams directly above them all winning, it was not easy for David Pleat, the Luton manager, to draw much satisfaction from taking a point against the third best team in the country.

It explained, perhaps, why he was in one of his ironic moods: "I said to our goalkeeper at half-time: 'You've played 115 games for us and you haven't scored a goal yet. Can you get the ball a bit further up the field?'"

Pleat was being more realistic than ironic when he said of the torn hamstring injury suffered by Linton, his novice right back: "I don't think it is

a position I would panic about at the moment. We are not going to go out and buy a big one." Pleat has long since become used to mending and making do at Kenilworth Road, a practice dating back to his first spell with the club.

But the cupboard was never quite as bare as it is now, as he pointed out in his programme notes. "The last three seasons' performances have caught up with the club and we are now paying for mistakes made on and off the field," he wrote. "Losing goal-scoring forwards like Elstrup (his determined decision) and Black (my unavoidable decision) has left the club rocking in the quest for goals. 'I don't think it is a position I would panic about at the moment. We are not going to go out and buy a big one.'"

Valid points, even if it does smack of excuse-making with the season not even half over. On a more optimistic note, Pleat said that, for the first time this season, he had taken "a little pleasure" from the team's performance and that he could see "there was a pattern developing in our game".

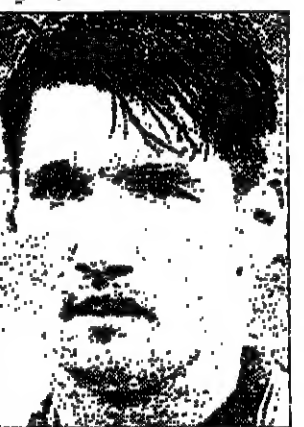
He was referring to the short-passing style he has attempted to indoctrinate at the club, rather than any pattern of failure. It is, after all, 13 games since they last won.

Their luck threatened to change when Harford clipped the ball through the legs of Margeson, deputising for the injured Coton, after 17 minutes. And again, when, following Currie's headed equaliser, Dwyer, their central defender, swept a short corner from Telfer straight past the stand-in goalkeeper.

But he was not bargained for City's exemplary away record and the persistence of Quinn, who as a recognised aerial forward will have taken particular delight with his superbly volleyed equaliser on the hour.

LUTON TOWN: A Chamberlain, D Linton (sub), D Preston, C Kamara, J Dwyer, P Telfer, B Stein, M Harford, M Pennington, S Galloway.

MANCHESTER CITY: M Margeson, A Ellis, M Pennington, G Nye, N Currie, S Redmond, D White, A Hession, N Quinn, Bingham, M Hughes. Referee: J. Key.



Harford: opening goal



Sent crashing: Saunders, the Liverpool forward, is felled by a tackle from Joseph, of Wimbledon, at Selhurst Park on Saturday

## Souness rendered almost speechless

Wimbledon ..... 0  
Liverpool ..... 0

By STUART JONES  
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

GRAEME Souness is usually not afraid to voice his opinion but, on Saturday, after being warned by the referee during the game, he was rendered virtually speechless after it. Wary perhaps of uttering comments that might be open to misinterpretation on an event which merited minimal description.

"It was vastly different to last Sunday." That was all the Liverpool manager cared to say. He was referring to the televised fixture which was

lifted to rare heights by Liverpool and West Ham United. At Selhurst Park, his side was pulled down to a level below mediocrity.

Being diminished by Wimbledon is a familiar experience for Liverpool, most notably in the 1988 FA Cup final when they were beaten by Sanchez's lone goal. Both clubs were in their prime three years ago and the contrast in styles at Wembley provided spectators with at least a modicum of entertainment.

Both teams are now considerably weakened. Wimbledon have sold so many of their players that their chairman, in a bizarre attempt to reverse the trend, has offered

Fashanu, one of the few remaining survivors, not only the presidency of the club but also a valuation in the transfer market of £12 million.

Fashanu was unavailable, a groin strain having been kept secret all week. Without the scorer of their only goal in the last five matches, it was predictable that Wimbledon should maintain their other unproductive sequence. They have yet to win under the management of Peter Withe.

Liverpool, so depleted that they resembled more or less a second team, had neither the experience nor the wit to create space for themselves and impose their own immeasurably more appealing passing game.

Molby, more rotund than in the past, was an incongruously regal figure. He introduced some class into an otherwise sterile midfield and one of his touches, a chip beyond Philman into the path of McManaman, would have been admirable even if it had been executed six days earlier.

Souness, who was already without eight senior members of his squad, lost another midway through the first half. Rosenzweig, whose pace was posing a threat, was felled by Fitzgerald, an offence which might have earned instant dismissal rather than a caution. Unjustly, it was the Israeli who had to depart.

In falling awkwardly, Rosenzweig dislocated his collar-

bone and will be out for at least a month. It is unlikely that he would have been in the line-up for the UEFA Cup tie against Swarovski Tirol, but Liverpool scarcely needed yet another stroke of misfortune. Barnes, Rush, Whelan and Venison, as well as Rosenzweig, are out of contention.

Liverpool, two days before leaving for Austria, could scarcely have competed in a less relevant practice game. As Souness implicitly suggested, it was almost too awful for words.

WIMBLEDON: H. Segner, R. Joseph, T. Philman, W. Barton, J. Scott, S. Fitzgerald, M. Arfield, R. Eadie, A. Cook (sub); A. Charles, T. Gibson, S. Antwi. LIVERPOOL: B. Gough, R. Jones, D. Burrows, S. Nicol, J. Molby, N. Turner, D. Saunders, M. Hession, B. Pennington (sub), G. Hysen, G. Abbott, S. McManaman. Referee: R. Pawley.

## Arsenal rue growing cost of entertainment

By PETER BALL

IS NOTHING sacred? As Arsenal extended their unwanted run to five games without a win, George Graham blamed the failures on the club trying to play entertaining football.

"We're not the old, mean Arsenal," Graham complained after Steve

Bould's header had earned a 1-1 draw at Sheffield Wednesday. "Perhaps it is because we are trying too hard to get rid of the 'boring' tag."

Arsenal? Boring? Surely not? Attempts to improve their image are only being taken so far, however. Last week, they left Oldham amidst allegations of provoc-

ative gestures and spitting. On Saturday, they got involved in a debate over diving for the free kick which produced Hirst's goal for the home side and Palmer countered that he had not touched Wright when Arsenal gained a penalty.

That argument became irrelevant when Woods, back in

England form, made a brilliant save. The result leaves the champions ten points behind the leaders, but they still fared better than most of their neighbours. Chelsea plunged to yet another defeat, at Southampton, Shearer scoring the only goal. Queens Park Rangers, who lost to Oldham 3-1 - at home for the second time in four days,

dropped into the bottom two. Things were even worse for Crystal Palace, who were destroyed 5-1 by Nottingham Forest. Brian Clough's decision to leave out his son, Nigel, and his £1 million signings, Tiler and Black, was fully justified as Forest's midfield left the England pair, Thomas and Gray, floundering in their wake.

## Warnock looks for logical answer

Everton ..... 1  
Notts County ..... 0

By IAN ROSS

AFTER seeing his side comprehensively outplayed, Neil Warnock, the manager of Notts County, turned to logic to help lessen his disappointment.

By pointing out that his team was overwhelmed by opponents of greater experience and superior technique, he all but succeeded in convincing himself that a defeat that was narrow in scoreline only could be regarded as an achievement.

"We have come from the third division to the first division in just two years, whereas most of the Everton lads have been playing at this level for some time," he said. "When you are up against quality players, all you can do is try and learn and this was certainly a good lesson for us."

"Perhaps we could have gone away with a draw, but even I can't say that we deserved one. That would have been a travesty. Even though we lost this is still better than going to places like Crewe and Halifax."

Although Warnock was generous in his praise of Everton, he could barely disguise his envy when discussing the contrasting financial frameworks within which he and his opposite number, Howard Kendall, operate.

"They are one of the best sides I have seen this season, but if I was given £1.5 million to spend, I would be expected to buy a new stand," he said.

Warnock was referring to the purchase, earlier in the week, of Johnston, the Scotland international forward, who joined the Merseyside club from Rangers in Glasgow. Johnston's lack of match fitness was glaringly apparent, but, if nothing else, his arrival would appear to have had an invigorating effect on Coates, the man he is likely to replace in the Everton attack.

Coates struck the woodwork twice during a diligent performance and it was fitting that he should claim the afternoon's solitary goal when he swept home Hinchcliffe's magnificent 50-yard pass in the 38th minute.

EVERTON: M. Southall, M. Jackson, A. Hinchcliffe, J. Johnston, D. Wilson, M. Keown, M. Ward, P. Breen, M. Johnson (sub), A. Cooper, A. Coates, P. Shearer (sub), R. Williams. Notts County: S. Cherry, C. Palmer, A. Pyle, C. Shaw, O. Yates (sub), C. Hughes, S. Shaw, M. Cooper, D. Thomas, R. Pugh, P. Hogg. Referee: P. Wright.

## WEEKEND FOOTBALL RESULTS AND TABLES

### Barclays League First division

Everton	(1)	1	NOTTS CO	(0)	0
Luton	(1)	2	MAN CITY	(0)	2
Sheff Wed	(1)	1	ARSENAL	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### Yesterday

A Villa	(0)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(0)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### Second division

Bristol Rovers	(2)	2	DERBY	(1)	3
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### Third division

Birmingham	(0)	1	EXETER	(0)	0
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### Fourth division

Blackpool	(0)	0	CREWE	(1)	2
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### GM Vauxhall Conference

Altrincham	(1)	4	BATH	(0)	0
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### B and Q Scottish League Premier division

Airdrie	(0)	0	CELTIC	(0)	3
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### First division

Clydebank	(1)	1	HAMILTON	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### Statistics

In a weekend where the leading scorers were held goalless, the pack look advantage, some 20 forwards moving to nine goals for the season, while David Bevan caught Gary Birt.	
Fourth division: Only the third division attendance average was up on last season.	
Transgressions in midweek have moved them above the 30 bookings mark in the Football League.	

### FA Vase: Second round

Perth	(1)	1	Great Harwood	(1)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### FA Cup: First round

Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### FA Cup: Second round

Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### FA Cup: Third round

Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### FA Cup: Fourth round

Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### FA Cup: Fifth round

Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### FA Cup: Sixth round

Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### FA Cup: Seventh round

Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### FA Cup: Eighth round

Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### FA Cup: Ninth round

Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### FA Cup: Tenth round

Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### FA Cup: Eleventh round

Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### FA Cup: Twelfth round

Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### FA Cup: Thirteenth round

Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### FA Cup: Fourteenth round

Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### FA Cup: Fifteenth round

Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### FA Cup: Sixteenth round

Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### FA Cup: Seventeenth round

Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1
Sheff Utd	(1)	1	LEEDS	(0)	1

### FA Cup: Eighteenth round

Fulham	17	4	3	11	6	7	2	2	3	7	16	23
Fulham	17	3	2	3	7	5	3	2	4	12	15	22
Hartlepool	17	5	1	2	14	9	1	3	5	12	10	23



# Kankkunen's world title aspirations are boosted after first day of Lombard RAC Rally

## McRae mounts mighty challenge

By STEPHEN SLATER

JUHA Kankkunen, of Finland, was forced to overcome an unexpected challenge from the young Scot, Colin McRae, but still headed into Chester last night as the leader of the Lombard RAC Rally. It was first blood for the Finn in his battle for the world rally championship title as the defending champion, Carlos Sainz, of Spain, was forced to settle for fourth position at the overnight halt, despite setting the fastest time on the final special stage of the day at Oulton Park, in Cheshire.

A storming drive through packed spectator stages saw Kankkunen's Lancia depose the initial rally leader, Markku Alen, driving a Subaru, but then both the Finns had to fight to stay ahead of McRae, aged 23, who finished the opening day in second position. This was despite two early scares as his Subaru spun off the slippery opening special stage at Harrogate and repeated it at Rother Valley in South Yorkshire, though fortunately without damage in either case.

"The car is still perfect at the moment," a delighted McRae said. "The worst thing is that the stages are all very slippery where the cars in front have churned up the mud, that's why we spun on stages one and three."

Faced with a recovery from fifteenth place, McRae responded with the form which has made him the youngest British rally champion. Driv-



Lake-side view: one spectator watches Hannu Mikkola closely during the Rother Valley stage in the Lombard RAC Rally yesterday

ing flat-out, McRae set the fastest time on the fifth special stage at Donnington Park, and matched Kankkunen's fastest time on the subsequent stage at Sutton Park, to regain his second place as the 172-car field swept through the Midlands.

The other leading British drivers, Malcolm Wilson and David Llewellyn, were forced to share ninth position in the overnight results, as they

dead-heated over the nine short yet tricky special stages which made up the opening day. Llewellyn driving the new Nissan Sunny, was initially delayed by choosing the wrong type of tyre to suit the slippery conditions, but matched the pace of his back-later in the day to equal Wilson's result in his Ford Sierra Cosworth. Although the Donnington Park special

stage spelled success for Colin McRae, it meant disaster for his younger brother, Alister, aged 20. His production class, Group N Subaru Legacy, suffered a blown turbo-charger on the stage and despite pushing the car for over half a mile, the chances of a double celebration for the McRae family were ruined.

McRae, junior, was not the only casualty of the opening day's action. Carlos Men-

nem, the son of the Argentine president, only survived the first few hundred yards of the event before his Ford Sierra crashed off the opening special stage in the Great Yorkshire Showground. Menem limped out of the stage with badly damaged bodywork but subsequently retired after his mechanics discovered a badly bent chassis on the car.

Sadly, one driver was destined not even to reach the

starting ramp. David Greer, of Belfast, awoke yesterday morning to discover that thieves had stolen his Ford Sierra Cosworth 4x4 rally car, while another crew had £30,000 of spares stolen.

LEADING POSITIONS (after nine stages):  
1. J. Kankkunen (Fin), Lancia Delta, 23m 30.2s; 2. C. McRae (GB), Subaru Legacy, 24m 02.2s; 3. S. Sainz (Esp), Toyota Celica, 24m 05.5s; 4. M. Alen (Fin), Subaru Legacy, 24m 06.5s; 5. K. Eriksson (Swe), Nissan Sunny, 24m 27.7s; 6. D. Llewellyn (GB), Nissan Sunny, 24m 28.8s; 7. A. Blomqvist (Swe), Nissan Sunny, 24m 34.4s; 8. M. Wilson (GB), Ford Sierra, 24m 34.5s; 9. D. Llewellyn (GB), Nissan Sunny, 24m 34.5s.

## GOLF

## Nelson hijacks winning role off Ballesteros

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES IN MIYAZAKI, JAPAN

THE scene was set perfectly yesterday for Severiano Ballesteros to win the Dunlop Phoenix here for the third time. The Spaniard came to the last needing a birdie four to break a four-way tie at 12 under par. All eyes were on him and he responded by hitting his third shot to ten feet. The title must surely be his.

To general disbelief, Ballesteros missed the putt and the title eventually went to the altogether less colourful figure of Larry Nelson, one of the most unsung triple major champions of all time.

He outlasted Jay Don Blake, who bowed out at the first extra hole, the 18th; Ballesteros, who parred the 16th, the third extra hole, but was removed by Nelson's birdie from 35 feet and one from nine feet by Isao Aoki, and, finally, Aoki, who could not match the American's par three at the 17th, the fourth and final tie hole.

It was the Georgia-based Nelson's first victory in this, Japan's richest tournament, and his first win since the Suntory Open, also in Japan, in 1989. He earned 36 million yen, which is worth roughly \$277,000 and compares most favourably with the \$160,543 he won on the US tour this season.

Ballesteros, who shot a 70 that featured five birdies and three bogeys, felt he had enough chances to win but

not the necessary luck. Still, his cheque for 14,400,000 yen made him the first player to win over ¥100 million from this event, a rich sort of solace.

Rather unexpectedly, the next best European was Sandy Lyle, who had matching halves of 33 in a well-nigh perfect 66, six under par. He called it boring but his caddie, wife Jolande, was well pleased. "I spoke to him sharply a couple of times," she said, "and stopped him getting down on himself. It's tough for other caddies to talk to him like that but I'm not scared of losing my job." The Lyles' top ten finish earned them ¥4,300,000.

Miguel Martin, of Spain, was twelfth with a 70 but José-Maria Olazábal had a 74 to share fifteenth place on 282 and if he thought he was bad — and he did — he should consider the plight of John Daly. The US PGA champion had a 79 and the embarrassment of a nine, five over par, at the second, where he twice drove out of bounds.

LEADING FINAL SCORES (Japan unless stated): 27: L. Nelson (US), 70, 71, 67, 68; 28: S. Ballesteros (Esp), 68, 69, 69, 70; 29: A. Aoki, 68, 68, 71, 73; 30: S. Lyle (GB), 68, 69, 71, 73; 31: J. Don Blake (US), 68, 69, 71, 73; 32: C. Sainz (Esp), 68, 69, 71, 73; 33: K. Eriksson (Swe), 68, 69, 71, 73; 34: D. Llewellyn (GB), 68, 69, 71, 73; 35: M. Wilson (GB), 68, 69, 71, 73; 36: A. Blomqvist (Swe), 68, 69, 71, 73; 37: J. Kankkunen (Fin), 68, 69, 71, 73; 38: M. Alen (Fin), 68, 69, 71, 73; 39: K. Greer (US), 68, 69, 71, 73; 40: D. Greer (US), 68, 69, 71, 73; 41: D. Greer (US), 68, 69, 71, 73; 42: D. Greer (US), 68, 69, 71, 73; 43: D. Greer (US), 68, 69, 71, 73; 44: D. Greer (US), 68, 69, 71, 73; 45: D. Greer (US), 68, 69, 71, 73; 46: D. Greer (US), 68, 69, 71, 73; 47: D. Greer (US), 68, 69, 71, 73; 48: D. Greer (US), 68, 69, 71, 73; 49: D. Greer (US), 68, 69, 71, 73; 50: D. Greer (US), 68, 69, 71, 73; 51: D. Greer (US), 68, 69, 71, 73; 52: D. Greer (US), 68, 69, 71, 73; 53: D. 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